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TOPICS OF THE DAY.

PATRIOTISM is clearly a plant of slow growth. No amount of forcing will hasten its maturity. Its roots must first be struck deep into the soil before it can be expected to produce either leaves or blossom. As M. de Lamartine happily expresses it, "C'est la cendre des morts qui créa la patrie." The love of the fatherland is an instinct rather than a sentiment, and, unless seated in the heart, is likely to break down in the hour of trial. The Federalists, for instance, have just proved to the world that it is one thing to shout with frenzy "Hail Columbia!" but quite another to make any serious sacrifices for their country. When it appeared tolerably certain that no active operations could take place before the autumn there was no lack of volunteers for three months' service, the term of which would expire before the probable season for hostilities arrived. Their calculations were correct in themselves, though falsified through the ignorant impatience of the mob and the inexcusable weakness of the Executive. Yielding to the senseless clamours of the vulgar, the President forced on the commencement of hostilities before his preparations were matured for either following up a success or sustaining a reverse. Even had victory alighted on the arms of the Unionists, General McDowell was in no condition to pursue the Confederates across the Alleghany mountains; and a forward movement would, besides, have left Washington defenceless against an active and daring enemy who should make a dash from the westward. The folly of venturing upon an engagement at all with such raw battalions as constituted the bulk of the Federalist army, was fully demonstrated by their utter rout and headlong flight from their imaginary pursuers. Of the individual courage of these runaways, there can be no doubt; but they had been banded together for too short a period to have acquired confidence in one another. Each could rely upon himself, but no man had any faith in the stanchness of his comrades. The officers, too, were as inexperienced and ill-disciplined as the privates, and do not appear to have made any effort to rally their broken or wavering regiments. *Vis consili expers mole ruit sua.* What originally had the form and semblance of a martial host, quickly degenerated into a surging and struggling mob, in which no distinction of persons, nor even a vestige of self-respect, could long be maintained. It was every one for himself. Scarcely a thought was bestowed upon the honour and safety of the country; for "the grand army of the Potomac" was only anxious to get as fast and as far as possible from the sound of the distant cannonade. Three regiments, indeed, are honourably mentioned as having alone held their ground, finally retreating in good order and without molestation; but these were composed of foreigners, not of Americans, and not unlikely they may have been kept to their duty by the desire to be well spoken of by their own countrymen across the Atlantic. The remembrance of the fatherland was still fresh and powerful in their hearts, and held them back from dishonour, while those whose interests were more immediately at stake had no care for anything but

personal security. Altogether, it was a most disgraceful and unseemly spectacle, and proves the deterioration that has taken place in this great branch of the Anglo-Saxon race since it was torn from the parent stock.

It is a positive relief to turn from the miserable and fratricidal strife that is bringing ruin and discredit upon the States of North America, if only to welcome to these shores the Ruler of a kindred and friendly nation. No Royal guest should be more honoured in this country than a King of Sweden, and we trust that Charles XV. will carry back to his own

nothing to be extorted from the fears of the Russian Government. An appeal to arms would speedily result in the actual bondage of the entire population. The only hope of amelioration is in a calm and dignified attitude that shall inspire respect without causing umbrage or distrust. It is so evidently to the advantage of Russia that the Poles should be satisfied with their lot, that it rests almost entirely with the latter how soon they shall be allowed the privilege of self-government. That concession, however, will certainly not be accelerated by the absurd affectation of wearing clothes of a particular colour, or by bawling hymns in the streets and placing lights in the windows. In fact, all this noise and idleness must seriously interfere with the material prosperity of the people, and, in some measure, incapacitate them for the labours and duties of self-government.

Discontent still prevails in Hungary. Neither side appears disposed to make any concession to the other. The Emperor of Austria persists in regarding that kingdom as a mere province of the empire, while the Hungarians deny his right to exercise any but a suzerain jurisdiction over them. They are willing to recognise Francis Joseph as their King, but they repudiate the idea that their country is an integral and inseparable portion of his empire. They claim for themselves an "autonomy," though they refuse the same privilege to the Croats and Servians. It is impossible that the present state of things can long continue without terminating in a fresh struggle. Either the Emperor must at once frankly concede what the Hungarians demand of him, or he must be prepared to trample out the embers of disaffection. It is not yet too late to have recourse to the wise and more liberal policy, though the opportunity will scarcely be prolonged beyond the present year; but should Francis Joseph blindly and obstinately prefer force to conciliation, he must make up his mind to the possible loss of Venetia as well as of Hungary.

In Central Asia, too, "the breath of worldly men" seems likely to "depose the deputy elected by the Lord." The Sultan of Bokhara, like his Royal and Imperial brethren in Europe, has made the discovery that

a monarch's crown, Golden in show, is but a crown of thorns.

Although a very short time has elapsed since his accession to the throne, he is already in danger of a forcible return to private life, having twice been defeated by his rebellious subjects. In his distress he is said to have applied for aid to Russia, and it is even reported that a considerable force has been placed at his disposal. Not much credit, however, is to be given to this rumour, which emanates from a native news-writer at the Court of Dost Mohammed, the conductor of which is also the special correspondent of an Indian journal. In the first place, it is hardly probable that the Russians would take part both with the Sultan of Bokhara and the Khan of Khokan, who are at variance with one another; and it is positively stated that they had sent troops to assist the latter previous to the receipt of the Sultan's appli-



GENERAL McCLELLAN, COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF THE FEDERAL ARMY IN VIRGINIA.

dominions nothing but pleasing associations in connection with his visit to Old England.

The news from Poland is again of a nature to discourage her truest friends. It is not by senseless illuminations and processions that the Russian Government will be either cowed or conciliated. The Emperor can well afford to laugh at such idle demonstrations, which can have no other effect than to discover the disaffected. If the Poles are really as much in earnest as they would have the world to believe, they will do well to abstain for the future from such puerile ebullitions of temper which betoken petulance rather than "high disdain." There is

cation. And, secondly, whatever news can be directly traced to Cabul must be received with great distrust. The aged Ruler of the Afghans, though more intelligent than his neighbours, labours under the fixed idea that the Indian Government is in a permanent state of alarm with regard to the projects of Russia. This is by no means the first time that he has raised the cry of "Wolf!" in the hope of enhancing the value of his own friendship; and of late he has shown himself nervously anxious to awaken a favourable interest in the British Government with respect to the Afghan alliance. It is with this view that the Dost has given out his intention of assisting the rebels should Russia interfere in their quarrel with their Sovereign; and he has also sanctioned a silly rumour to the effect that the same Power had offered to make common cause with the Chinese against France and England. Such reports are almost too absurd to be seriously refuted.

Favourable accounts of the harvest come in from all parts of the country. If somewhat below the average in yield, the quality of the corn is acknowledged to be excellent. Yet another fortnight of tolerable weather, and peace and plenty will be secured to us through the coming winter.

GENERAL M'CLELLAN.

THROUGHOUT the conflict in America the name of General M'Clellan has been continually associated with those who have been foremost both in activity and patriotism; and, at the present juncture, when such severe strictures have been passed upon the commanding officers of the forces who took part in the affair at Bull Run, he is likely to have intrusted to him those operations which will ultimately decide the contest between the North and the South.

General M'Clellan commanded the division in Western Virginia, which consisted of about 35,000 volunteers from Ohio, Indiana, Chicago, Michigan, Virginia Union, Cincinnati, Kansas, and Kentucky. After the terrible disaster which is known as "The Retreat at Bull Run," the Northern "public" have lost confidence in the officers, who were, it is said, influenced too greatly by popular opinion in pressing forward to a general engagement before their plans were fully matured. However this may be, it is certain that no very good example was set to troops who, as volunteers, preserved too distinct a recognition of their individuality to stand the brunt of a charge by the enemy after their officers had "made tracks;" and the Northern troops, who had in them all the qualifications of good soldiers, except adequate discipline, were, after losing the support of that example which alone could have preserved them, thoroughly routed by a mere panic, which was so much a matter of imagination that the enemy remained in total ignorance either of its cause or effect. At present the result of this first general contest seems to be that public confidence in the Generals who led the Northern troops has been almost destroyed, and the preparations for renewed hostilities are confined to other hands. On the 30th of July Major-General M'Clellan paid a visit to the Houses of Congress, and received that demonstration of respect and welcome to which his recent achievements and his present position of honour and responsibility entitle him, since he accepted the command of the army of the Potomac. When the command was tendered to General M'Clellan he was informed by the President and Cabinet that the entire responsibility of reorganising the routed army and renewing the campaign rested upon him, and he was therefore to have the appointment of all general officers to serve under him, and that the entire disposition of officers was placed in his hands. With this power invested in so able a General, the army and the whole country were justified in expecting that a corps of efficient officers would be appointed, and that the army would be placed on such a footing as would soon convert defeat into victory. But politicians have overruled the Administration to such an extent that it is said General M'Clellan received a notification to the effect that, notwithstanding the previous arrangement, leaving the appointment of his officers of divisions and brigades entirely to his own discretion, certain particular gentlemen (politicians, of course) were to be appointed to one position or another as generals of brigades and divisions. At any rate, the soldiers have confidence in the General, and it is said that the change has already been productive of much good amongst the troops.

Major-General George P. M'Clellan is by birth a Pennsylvanian, and has for some time been acknowledged to be one of the most skillful officers in the army of the United States. The General entered the United States' Military Academy as a cadet in 1842, and had attained considerable distinction in his graduation in 1846, since he was immediately appointed Brevet Second Lieutenant in the Corps of Engineers with whom he was actively engaged during the Mexican campaign.

He was breveted First Lieutenant for gallant and meritorious conduct in the battles of Contreras and Churubusco, the latter the hottest-contested battle in the war, Aug. 20, 1847, and was subsequently appointed Brevet Captain for gallant conduct in the battle of Molino del Rey, Sept. 8, 1847, but declined the honour. He participated in the successful assault on the Castle of Chapultepec, Sept. 13, 1847, for which he received an honourable brevet. He commanded a company of Sappers and Miners in 1848, and at the close of the Mexican War he returned to West Point, where he remained on duty with the Sappers and Miners until 1851. During the summer and fall of 1851 he superintended the construction of Fort Delaware, and in the succeeding spring was assigned to duty, under Major R. B. Marcy, in the expedition for the exploration of the Red River. Thence he was ordered direct to Texas, as senior engineer, on the staff of General Persifer F. Smith, and engaged for some months in surveying the rivers and harbours of that State. In 1853 he was ordered to the Pacific coast, in command of the western division of the survey of the North Pacific Railroad route. He returned to the East in 1854 on duty connected with the Pacific survey, and was engaged also in secret service to the West Indies. The next year he received a commission in the 1st Regiment of Cavalry, and was appointed a member of the commission which went to the seat of war in the Crimea and in northern Russia. Colonel Richard Delafield, one of his colleagues, is now an officer in the rebel army; and Major Alfred Mordecai, the third member of the commission, a short time ago resigned the superintendency of the Troy Arsenal. Major M'Clellan's report on "The Organisation of European Armies and the Operations of the War," a quarto volume embodying the result of his observations in the Crimea, greatly enhanced his reputation as a scientific soldier. Since 1857 until recently he has been actively engaged in superintending extensive railroad operations in the Western States.

When the domestic troubles of the Union assumed formidable dimensions Major M'Clellan's services were at once called into requisition. Governor Curtin, of Pennsylvania, tried to secure the benefit of his experience in organising the volunteers from that State; but the tender of the Major-Generalship of the Ohio forces reached him first, and he at once accepted it. On May 14 he received a commission as Major-General in the United States' Army. He is the translator and compiler of "The Manual of Bayonet Exercise for the United States' Army," and has the merit of having introduced the bayonet exercise among the Union forces.

THE DEGREE of D.D. has just been conferred on the Rev. William Cooke, of London, editor of the *Methodist New Connexion Magazine*, by the acuity and trustees of Shurtleff College, Illinois, U.S.

Foreign Intelligence.

FRANCE.

The Emperor last week officially received the Minister of the kingdom of Italy. His Excellency and suite were conveyed to the Tuileries in three State carriages.

It is positively asserted in well-informed circles in Paris that the Emperor has at last determined upon withdrawing his protection from the wretched old man who rejoices in the name of Pope. The following arrangement is said to have been determined on:—That the Papacy will be confined to the Leonine city; that the Pope will have a noble guard, and a flag with the pontifical arms; a considerable budget; the right to send, as heretofore, Apostolic Nuncios to the Courts of the great Powers, and that this spiritual authority and independence will be guaranteed in the most complete manner. On these conditions it is expected that the French army will be recalled from Rome towards the end of September, and that their place will be supplied by Italian troops. Victor Emmanuel will thus assume the secular Sovereignty and the real Government of Rome. To this rumour, however, there are positive contradictions. M. Boniface, writing in the *Constitutionnel*, unhesitatingly declares that the whole story is false and unfounded. But the *Presse* observes upon this denial that it applies only to the particular form of the arrangement, and adds:—"This is of no importance; public opinion cares little about the means; what it wants is the end." It is also stated that Father Passaglia had arrived in Turin to take soundings with a view to a compromise, and the opinion is expressed that, seeing St. Peter's bark must go down, the father is trying at least to save the oars.

The *Presse* of Tuesday gives the following:—"The Marquis de Banneville, the French Minister at Munich, has arrived at Paris, and has assumed the direction of Foreign Affairs."

The King of Sweden and Prince Oscar have paid a visit to Cherbourg, where a breakfast was offered to them by the authorities. They then proceeded to the Isle of Wight, on a visit to her Majesty Queen Victoria.

The new Boulevard de Malsherbes was inaugurated on Monday by the Emperor. M. Haussman, Prefect of the Seine, made a speech to his Majesty, in reply to which the Emperor, after expressing his satisfaction at the improvements of Paris, said:—"Certain interests necessarily suffer by the execution of great works. It is the duty of the public administration to have as much regard for these interests as possible, to infuse activity into labour, to protect the less-favoured classes, and to oppose an increase in the price of articles of the first necessity. Since the Treaty of Commerce the exportation of articles of Paris has nearly doubled."

The Emperor recommended the municipality to reduce as much as the local finances would permit the town dues on goods of the first necessity.

The *Moniteur* publishes the following nominations to the post of Envoy Extraordinary:—"M. Beneditti to Italy, M. Reculet to Bavaria, and M. Dammont to Wurtemberg."

The Emperor left Paris for Châlons on Tuesday.

Prince Metternich has had an audience of the Emperor in order to take leave.

General Fanti has arrived in Paris. He will shortly proceed to Châlons.

A new subject of controversy has arisen between the French Government and the Swiss Confederation. The gendarmerie of the Canton de Vaud some time since arrested a Frenchman in the Valley of Dappes, which is a disputed territory. The French Minister of Foreign Affairs is said to have forwarded a protest against this act of sovereignty exercised on the French territory. It is announced that the Government of Berne is puzzled to know how to treat this untoward event.

SPAIN.

The jury has acquitted the journal *La Discussion*, prosecuted for having published a Democratic political programme demanding the establishment of a single Chamber and the independence of the Church.

PORTUGAL.

Disturbances have taken place at St. Ubes on account of the imposition of fresh taxes and the introduction of new weights and measures. Troops were dispatched there on Tuesday afternoon.

ITALY.

It is reported that General Della Rovera will enter the Cabinet as Minister for War.

The *Official Gazette* of the 10th publishes a despatch addressed by Baron Ricasoli to the representatives of Italy abroad. This despatch reviews the history of the recent Parliamentary Session, and mentions the absence of those Deputies representing opinions favourable to the former Government. It concludes by saying:—"Italy has constituted herself, notwithstanding that a portion of Italian territory is in the hands of others. Europe, beholding us armed and strong, will become persuaded of our right to the entire possession of our territory, and will appreciate our sincerity in offering liberty and independence to the Church."

General Chialini continues to act with vigour at Naples, where, it is said, he has succeeded in capturing several brigand chiefs and in greatly crippling the operations of the reactionists. Could the encouragement given to brigandage at Rome be put an end to, tranquillity would soon be restored in Naples.

Great efforts are being made with a view to improve the condition of the Italian Army. A loud complaint had been raised that the soldiery were underfed. Though it is well known that the troops were amply supplied with provisions in the open field, and whenever they were put on a war footing, it was universally acknowledged that they were stinted in their garrison diet. This is being remedied by the introduction of a better scale of diet, the rations to be supplied by contract, the troops to be divided into regular messes, and always be supplied with the proper regulation provisions.

There is much contradiction as to the course to be pursued in consequence of the fracas between General Goyon and Mgr. Mérode. One account says that the latter has resigned; but this, again, is contradicted. The following is the latest on the subject:—"Mgr. Mérode will remain in the Ministry. His altercation with General Goyon has not interrupted the good understanding of the Pope with France."

The Pontifical soldier for the possession of whose person such a wrathful feud arose between Mgr. de Mérode and General de Goyon has been tried (for killing the French soldier) by a French court-martial and acquitted, on account of the provocation he had undergone previous to the fatal deed.

GERMANY.

The *Cologne Gazette* announces that Austria has consented to withdraw from the Federal fortresses, till the end of the year, her non-German troops, and to replace them by German regiments. Already the Italian regiment which was at Rastall has been replaced by a German regiment, and the same will quickly be done with the Italian regiment forming part of the garrison of Mayence.

PRUSSIA.

The King of Prussia has authorised the acceptance of voluntary contributions for the formation of a Prussian navy.

His Prussian Majesty has resolved, it is said, to make further advances towards constitutional government. The responsibility of Ministers, a fact never yet admitted, is to be settled by law, almost on the English basis. A reform is to be introduced into the House of Lords, which will, it is imagined, tend to restrict the somewhat feudal tone of that body. The elected division are now chosen by all noble owners of land, and it is proposed to strike all whose rental is less than £800 a year from the list of electors. The

wealthy noblesse in Prussia, as everywhere else, are far more liberal in feeling than the lesser proprietors. The right to administer the police on their own estates is also to be transferred to the State, and the yeomanry are to join in electing the county magistrates, now selected only by larger proprietors. These measures will require the creation of a numerous body of Peers, and will probably move the whole tone and attitude of the Prussian Upper House to the lower. At present the Upper House, except upon money questions, is the more powerful of the two.

DENMARK.

The following statement of the recent concessions made by Denmark to Holstein has been published officially:—"Germany had demanded that for the current financial year the contribution of Holstein from its special revenues to the common budget of the monarchy should be provisionally limited to the quota allotted to Holstein by the normal budget of 1856. Denmark has consented to this demand." The Federal Diet of Germany, at an extraordinary sitting on the 13th inst., to consider these concessions, decided that they were satisfactory, and that there was no reason for proposing further measures in reference to the execution of the Federal resolution of the 7th of February last.

AUSTRIA AND HUNGARY.

The city of Pesth was the scene of a great demonstration on the 8th inst. On that day M. Deak proposed to the Lower House an Address to the Emperor in answer to the late Imperial Rescript. Contrary to all expectation, it was determined to hold an open sitting, and in a few minutes the building was completely filled. A correspondent thus describes the scene:—

M. Deak rose amid breathless suspense, and begged the House indulgently to allow M. Szalai (the great historian) to read his draught alternately with him. This was granted, and M. Deak, after making a few introductory remarks, commenced the reading of his Address, which lasted three hours. He was not contented with demolishing the arguments of the Rescript, fundamentally, one after another; he established more minutely and more exhaustively than before the political position of Hungary in all its branches; he categorically stated the rights and demands of the nation, and the laws on which they were founded; he touched on the position of Bohemia, Galicia, and the other parts of the empire; and, finally, having assigned the grounds, and fortified his position in every way, reiterated the declaration that Hungary could under no conditions obey the Royal summons to the Reichsrath or comply with the Royal requests. The style, as usual, is perfectly calm, but betrays no sign of weakness or yielding. At times it assumes the form of bitter satire, though always implied, and never loses its tone of polished politeness.

Almost at every paragraph the House broke out into shouts of "Eljen!" (viva!), again and again repeated, which could be heard at a distance. No auditor could distinguish on which side of the House sat the friends of Deak. When he resumed his seat a scene of confusion arose; the President's bell in vain called members to their seats; left, right, and extremes all rushed to shake hands with and congratulate the great statesman. There is no describing the enthusiasm that prevailed; party spirit was smothered in admiration for the author of this masterly exposition of Hungarian rights. When the question was put by the President, "Does the House accept the Address of M. Deak in principle? Let the eyes stand up!" the whole House seemed to rise with one accord, but a careful scrutiny enabled one to observe on the left eight of the extremes, who remained sitting; it is possible there were a few more hidden by the mass. When the nois was called upon, no one rose. After the division, M. Tisza, on behalf of himself and his party, said that they cordially gave their support and votes to M. Deak. The production of M. Deak, to which he paid the highest meed of praise, deserved to receive the unanimous and unqualified assent of the House.

By consent of both parties, the standing orders were suspended, and the first, second, and third readings taken at once; the Address as adopted by the Commons was ordered to be taken up to the House of Lords.

In the sitting of the Upper House on the 9th the draught Address proposed by M. Deak was, on the motion of Count Szapary, unanimously adopted by acclamation, without any amendment.

The Address was presented to the Emperor by deputations from both Houses on Wednesday, when his Majesty replied by a short speech couched in general terms. The final resolution of the Emperor on the Address was expected to be made known to-day.

A dissolution of the Diet is expected.

On the 9th deputations from the magistrates and the electors have congratulated M. Deak on his late conduct. M. Deak refused a teneade which they offered him, and the people consequently contented themselves with singing popular songs under his window.

A letter from Pesth states that, on the 5th inst., the widow of Count Bathanyi, who was executed in 1849, arrived at Pesth from her estate of Daka, where she has long resided. The representatives went in a body to visit her.

It is stated that Count Forgach, the new Chancellor of Hungary, seems little inclined to be the tool of Austria. He has on several points insisted on maintaining the privileges of Hungary, and declared that he agreed with Baron Vay that the Chancellor of Hungary could not take his seat in the Council of the Empire until the nation had sent its representatives. It is also reported that the Count has intimated that he will not, under any circumstances, lend himself to ordering direct elections to the Reichsrath.

CROATIA.

The Diet of Croatia have under consideration a measure which aims at the entire abolition of the peculiar form of military tenure which prevails in the territory known as the Austrian Military Frontier. This territory constitutes, in point of fact, a perpetual encampment, in which every man performs a soldier's duties, and receives in pay the tenure of a certain portion of land. The object of this system, founded by Prince Eugene, was to provide a fixed militia, whose duty it should be to act as a bulwark against the Turks. The Croatian Diet propose that the Military Frontier shall now be placed on the same footing as every other Croatian province, and shall simply furnish its proportionate contingent on the same principle.

POLAND.

The national fête was celebrated at Warsaw on Monday, notwithstanding the prohibition of the authorities. The Bourse and all the counting-houses and shops were closed. The churches were filled by large congregations. In the evening the city was illuminated. An imposing military force, with artillery, was stationed in the streets. Some arrests have taken place.

Popular feeling at Warsaw is very much excited. The people hope that a national Polish Government will soon be established. A newspaper, under the title of *Le Phare*, has for some time past been secretly circulating in Warsaw. A circular was recently distributed warning the Judges not to yield to the influence of the Government in trying the persons arrested during the late disturbances at Modlin.

On Thursday evening, the 7th, a conflict took place at Warsaw between the people and the military in consequence of the latter having interfered to prevent an illumination of the city. One person was killed and several were arrested. The authorities have denied that any one was killed, and say that one person only was slightly wounded.

It is said that the Emperor's acceptance of M. Wielopolski's resignation had arrived at Warsaw, and that M. Lambert's appointment as Governor of Poland will be cancelled, and M. de Kisseleff appointed in his stead.

SERVIA.

According to advices from Vienna, Prince Milosch, the ruler of Servia, instead of sending an Envoy to Constantinople to congratulate Abdul Aziz upon his accession to the throne, forwarded a note modestly demanding the transfer to himself of the Musulman quarter of the city of Belgrade, which lies under the very guns of the citadel held by the Turkish forces. The Porte has acted with unaccustomed intelligence and spirit; and, whilst it has dispatched a circular to the great Powers drawing attention to the insolent and aggressive character of the note, it has at the same time sent instructions to its officers in the Herzegovina to carry on hostilities there with increased vigour.

TURKEY AND THE EAST.

The European commission for the settlement of the affairs of the Herzegovina has been resolved. Omar Pacha has addressed an ultimatum to the Montenegrin Chiefs. The army of Omar Pacha now numbers 30,000 men, and is being concentrated with the intention of vigorously carrying on operations.

A despatch from Constantinople of the 8th says:—"The Porte, having regard to the situation of affairs in the Herzegovina, Servia, and the Danubian Principalities, has adopted military measures on an extended scale. All the disposable troops have been sent to the army of Roumelia, and the Sultan's body guard and gendarmes have alone been retained for the protection of the capital. Three infantry regiments left on the 7th. The Sultan, who exhibits the greatest activity, reviewed them the evening before."

The *Presse* asserts that at the end of July great agitation prevailed in Damascus and in some other towns of Syria. The Ulemas (says the *Presse*) endeavoured to excite the people to rise against the Maronites, but the agitation ceased when the arrest of the Ulemas was ordered by Daoud Effendi.

AMERICA.

Since the battle of Bull Run no military movement of importance has taken place on either side. In the Congress at Washington there has been much squabbling as to who was responsible for the premature (as is alleged) attack on Manassas, and much blame is thrown upon the Government and the "politicians." Secretaries Cameron of the Army, and Welles of the Navy Department, came in for a large share of abuse, and the resignation or dismissal of one or both was loudly demanded. General Scott is said to have declared himself a coward for having yielded to the influences brought to bear upon him to allow the "On to Richmond!" cry to have overborne his better judgment. The General is said to have blamed the President, and also that the latter "accepted the responsibility." Great exertions were being made to remedy the mischief caused by the defeat at Bull Run. New regiments were being enrolled, artillery provided, and ammunition and stores of all sorts collected in large quantities. The Northerners were still confident of being able to ultimately put down the rebellion, and reconstitute the Union.

General McClellan had assumed the command of the army of the Potomac, and had issued his two first general orders. The first announces the appointment of his Staff, comprising, it is said, a body of excellent and efficient officers; the second order embodies the first step towards reorganising the army. It commands the instant return to their several camps of the officers and soldiers scattered round Washington at hotels and boarding-houses, reminding them that duty requires their presence at the head-quarters of their regiments to restore order and discipline among the men. Colonel Porter was appointed Provost-Marshal to carry out this order, and he had already begun his work by closing up the liquor saloons in the capital, around which much drunkenness and riotous conduct has existed.

Apprehensions of a Confederate attack on Washington were still entertained, though in a modified degree.

The Federals had evacuated Hampton, near Fort Monroe.

General Banks was in a strong position on the Maryland shore, and completely commanded Harper's Ferry.

It was stated by an army officer who was taken prisoner at Bull Run, and made his escape into Washington, that the rebels had not less than 240,000 men in Virginia. He reports further that no intention exists to attack Washington, and that General Beauregard is in favour of acting on the defensive entirely. He represents Fairfax as being rapidly put into a state of defence by the construction of fortifications and intrenchments. The statement of this officer looks like an exaggeration, if we may judge by the assertion of the *Montgomery Mail* that the Confederates had £250,000 soldiers (altogether, we suppose, and not in Virginia merely), well drilled and armed, and judiciously disposed for defensive operations. As the editor of that journal is Secretary of the Southern Congress, the above information is supposed to be derived from official sources.

Several European officers are said to have arrived at New York in the steamer Borussia, for the purpose of offering their services to the United States' Government.

Congress has passed the Tariff and Direct Tax Bills, the latter for the sum of 20,000,000 dollars. Bills have also been passed levying a duty of 15c. on tea, 4c. on coffee, 2c. on sugar, and a tax of 3 per cent on incomes above 800 dollars.

A bill ordering the confiscation of property used for insurrectionary purposes has likewise been passed.

The House of Representatives had passed a bill providing for the monthly payment of the troops.

Prince Napoleon and suite arrived at New York on July 27. The Prince subsequently proceeded to Washington.

The news of the battle of Bull Run was officially communicated to the Congress of the Confederate States at Richmond, Virginia, on the 22nd ult., in despatches from Mr. Jefferson Davis, the President. It was followed by the adoption of a series of resolutions recognising the hand of God in the victory achieved by the Southern army, inviting the people to unite in a general thanksgiving for their deliverance from the invader, deploring the terrible necessity which had led to bloodshed upon American soil, sympathising with the families of the slain, and approving the benevolent and patriotic efforts of the Mayor of Richmond to make provision for the wounded.

THE WEST INDIES.

The news from the West Indies by the mail just received does not exhibit any feature of striking importance. Some commercial failures had taken place, and trade was rather paralysed, but agricultural prospects were satisfactory. A correspondent says:—"In Jamaica trade is altogether dependent upon agriculture, and our hopes of a prosperous commerce are based entirely upon successful tillage; and it is gratifying to know that while local trade is undergoing a temporary paralysis our agriculture is in a promising state. There is at present a vitality about it which it has not shown for years. Our exports have been increasing since 1856. We hear no more of the abandonment of sugar properties; on the contrary, we hear of abandoned properties being again taken up, and of the extension of sugar and coffee cultivation; and, as the stream of immigration has now fairly set in towards our shores, we may look forward with confidence to a steadily increasing prosperity."

The cotton question is still engaging attention; seeds, however, are wanted, and the Jamaica Cotton Company would do well to send a supply. The weather had been excessively sultry, broken occasionally by heavy squalls of short duration. The general health was, however, good.

Advices from St. Thomas state that the town of Antigua had been totally destroyed by an earthquake, with the loss of 2000 lives. This report, however, wants confirmation.

The weather at Demerara was wet and unhealthy. The canes on many estates had been injured by continued rain. Business was seriously checked. Importations of all descriptions were in excess, and prices had generally receded. Produce was scarce, and prices nominal. Tonnage was abundant.

At Barbadoes the weather had much improved, the rain having abated. The crop was nearly all finished, but the yield was very indifferent, and scarcely worth rearing.

INDIA AND CHINA.

The intelligence from India by the mail just arrived possesses no special interest. The papers are generally occupied with the discussion of the financial schemes of the Government, which seem to meet with very little favour at their hands.

From Hong-Kong the reports are so far favourable that the European representatives maintain friendly relations with the

Chinese and Japanese Governments. The report of trade operations is not so good, however.

BOKHARA.

The King of Bokhara, worsted in an encounter with the rebels, has applied to the Russians for aid, and the Russian General directed a large force to proceed to Bokhara. The opportunity has thus occurred for the active interference of the Russians in the political affairs of the States of Central Asia. Dost Mohammed has given orders to his Lieutenant, Ufzul Khan, to give all possible aid to the rebels in the event of the Russians assisting the other party.

AUSTRALIA.

In the colony of Victoria, at the departure of the mail, the public mind was absorbed with the approaching dissolution of the Assembly, and the consequent general election. Nothing had been heard of the exploring expedition into the interior of the continent, and serious fears were entertained for the safety of the gentlemen composing it. Great floods had visited New South Wales in May, but at the end of the month the waters had pretty generally subsided. Whilst they lasted they were the occasion of very extensive disasters.

Affairs in New Zealand continue in a most unsettled and unsatisfactory state. The spirit of dissent and insubordination amongst the natives does not abate; strong measures are again talked of; and the Governor has issued a proclamation demanding universal submission to the sovereignty of the Queen and the authority of the law, the restoration of all plunder, and—which is a somewhat doubtful policy—compensation to her Majesty's peaceful subjects, native or European, for the losses they may have sustained during the late disturbances.

IRELAND.

THE LORD LIEUTENANT AT BELFAST.—His Excellency the Earl of Carlisle spent a busy day in Belfast on Friday week. He visited a variety of public institutions, received and answered several addresses, inspected the model school and Queen's College, as well as the prison and Lunatic Asylum, lunched with the officers in barracks, and was the centre of attraction at the Belfast Horticultural Society's Show, his visit to which he signified by conferring the honour of knighthood upon the Mayor of Belfast, Mr. Edward Coey—now Sir Edward. One newspaper correspondent says in reference to this act of his Excellency:—"There is a special fitness and significance in this honour which does not meet the eye of a stranger. Sir Edward Coey has risen and prospered with the great town of which he is the chief magistrate. He is proud to acknowledge that forty years ago he entered Belfast a poor boy seeking employment, without a shilling in his pocket. Now he is one of the wealthiest in a community renowned for its wealth. He has purchased, at a cost of £80,000, the ancestral estate of the Earl of Antrim, and now ranks among the landed gentry of his native county." The Lord Lieutenant finished off the day by attending a ball at the County Court House, where he remained till two o'clock, and then returned to Brownlow House, the seat of Lord Lurgan.

MURDER BY A DUMB MAN.—Last week Peter McArdle, of Tullyvalen, was brutally murdered in his house by a man named John Collins, who broke his skull in several places with a heavy iron instrument like a crow-bar. It is supposed that the motive for this outrage was, that Collins, who is a relative of the deceased by marriage, wanted to get possession of a farm held by him. The murderer is stated to be deaf and dumb.

THE DERRY ANNIVERSARY.—A correspondent of the *Freeman's Journal*, writing from Londonderry, Monday night, says:—"This being the 12th of August, the anniversary of the relief of Derry, the 'prentice boys' fired cannon and hoisted flags, the Party Emblems Act notwithstanding. They also marched in procession through the streets, headed by a band of music and dragging after them several pieces of cannon. The processionists all wore crimson sashes, and many of them displayed orange handkerchiefs. No attempt was made to prevent them by the authorities. All passed off quietly."

NATIONAL EDUCATION IN IRELAND.—The sums voted by Parliament for the purpose of national education in Ireland, from the commencement of the system to the end of the year 1860, amount in the whole to £3,317,964. The local contributions in aid of teachers' salaries were £43,961 in 1860, and there are also local contributions otherwise in sustenance of the system. 4073 schools have been built without any aid from Parliament.

* DECLINE OF SALMON.—The Fishery Commissioners of Ireland have reported to the Lord Lieutenant that the salmon fisheries in 1860 were not so productive as in the preceding year, though the money value of the salmon captured probably exceeded that of many years past; and that there is reason to fear that, under the temptation of the high price which this fish has attained in the market, there has been a degree of over-capture which must eventually prove detrimental to the general interests. The number of fixed engines in the tideways, &c., on the seacoast has increased within seven years from 270 to 386. This mode of capture has now extended to an abuse; but, as it has been legalised by the Legislature, all that the commissioners can do is to adopt as short an open season as the circumstances of each district or river require, and to enforce a strict observance of the close season. Much damage is done at milldams and factories by the salmon being tempted into the rapid current and killed by the wheels, but it is thought that means may be adopted for inducing the fish to follow the course of the river without injuring the working power of the wheel. The erection of fish-passes over weirs is found of very great service in affording the fish a free passage up to the spawning beds. The weirs are very injurious to navigation.

VISIT OF THE DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE TO IRELAND.—His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge, accompanied by Major-General Sir Richard Airey and Colonel Charteris, Aide-de-Camp, arrived in Kingstown at seven o'clock on Sunday morning on a visit of inspection of the troops in Ireland. His Royal Highness left Dublin on Monday for the Curragh, to be present at the grand review which took place under his superintendence the same afternoon.

RIOT IN BELFAST.—A disgraceful riot occurred in Belfast last week. Numbers of people congregated in the street, and commenced letting off squibs, crackers, and other pyrotechnics, in honour of the visit of the Lord Lieutenant. Subsequently this harmless amusement was converted into a serious riot. The police had interfered to put a stop to the squib-throwing, and, it is said, did not do their spitting very gently; the result of which was that the crowd retaliated, and a general row took place. Several persons were seriously injured, and considerable damage was done to property.

SCOTLAND.

THE MOORS AND FORESTS.—The shooting season commenced on Monday, and bids fair to afford abundance of sport. From every part the reports are most encouraging, all descriptions of game being numerous and in good condition. In Cornie the deer and young fawns are plentiful, and never gave promise of better sport. The accounts of the grouse in Ayrshire are more variable than they were a short time ago, particularly as respects the Bar Moors; but still a fair sport is generally anticipated, although it is feared that the earliness of the broods, coupled with the broken weather, will make the birds very wild.

COALPIT ON FIRE.—The Summerlee coalpit, near Glasgow, caught fire last week. There were many men at work in the mine at the time, several of whom have lost their lives. The utmost exertions were made to extricate the unfortunate men; but, owing to the impossibility of reaching the workings while the fire lasted, these efforts were only partially successful. The number of victims is at least 11, it may be even more.

HEAVY RAINS AND FLOOD ON THE RIVER CLYDE.—Heavy rains fell on Saturday and Sunday last in the west of Scotland, by which considerable damage was done to the crops and other property. So great was the fall of rain on these nights, that on Monday the Clyde had risen eleven feet above its usual level at low water. It gradually began to decrease, however, so that at the time of high water, at half-past five o'clock p.m., the water was some inches lower than at a previous part of the day, although the tide must have raised the water at least eight feet. Parts of the South-Western Railway were flooded, so that it was with considerable difficulty that the morning trains reached the city. Many potato and corn fields have been covered by water, and in some of the low-lying parts of the neighbourhood cottages have also been flooded. At Kirkintilloch thirty-six acres of grain have been destroyed. On Monday morning Lochlomond was four feet above the level, and considerably higher than it has been for years, so that several of the islands were completely submerged. So far as known there have not been any lives lost.

GREAT SHOAL OF DOG-FISH.—The *Northern Ensign* says:—"Perhaps in no former season have there appeared greater quantities of dog-fish along the whole Scotch coast, from Dunbarton to Stornoway, than in the present. At Wick the ravages of this destructive fish have been considerable, and fishermen are loud in their complaints, some of them having landed as many as from ten to twenty score, which is considered a great take on this coast. All the fishermen unite in saying that but for the enormous shoal of dogs the quantity of herrings brought ashore would have been doubled. At Peterhead and Fraserburgh the shoal appears to have become overwhelming, and the quantities lodged are almost

astounding. A shot of 152 score, or upwards of 3000 dogs, was landed on Thursday from the boat Anna Maria, of Cairnburgh, Alexander May, skipper, who sold his take at 8½d. per score, realising £5 7s. 8d. for one morning's catch of dogs!"

DUNBAR HERRING FISHING, AUG. 12.—Although last night was boisterous and wet, upwards of 150 boats went to sea. They returned this morning all very heavily fished, many of them rising forty crans, but the general catches were from ten to twenty crans. All the Irish boats had high quantities. Prices from 20s. to 24s. per cran.

PROPOSED ART-EXHIBITION AT GLASGOW.—A meeting was held in Glasgow the other day on the subject of a proposed exhibition in that city of objects illustrative of industrial and decorative art, when, from the satisfactory nature of the reports given in, it was considered that there was a fair prospect of success in carrying out the proposal, and steps were taken for that purpose. The time when the exhibition will be opened has not yet been fixed.

THE PROVINCES.

A NICE POINT FOR THE LAWYERS.—A labouring man at Kingsbridge, with a loaf under his arm, was going down Fore-street, and in passing a young lady his foot caught in her crinoline, and he stumbled and fell, and in so doing the loaf fell out of his arm and went through a large square of glass and broke it to pieces. The question now raised is, Who is to pay for the glass? The lady with the crinoline or the man with the loaf? One thing is certain, that if there had been no crinoline the man would not have fallen, and the glass would not have been broken; therefore, as the crinoline was the cause, the crinoline ought to pay the expenses.—*Western Times*.

A REAL HERO.—A large and enthusiastic meeting has just been held at Hull for the purpose of manifesting the appreciation of his fellow-townsmen of the noble and self-sacrificing exertions of Mr. John Ellerthorpe, foreman to the Hull Dock Company, who during a period of forty-eight years has been the means of rescuing from drowning no fewer than twenty-nine persons. A record of his unprecedented exploits was read at the meeting, and certainly some of his deeds of unprecedented daring would put to the blush the feats of some of our renowned military heroes. His last exploit occurred several days ago, when, to rescue a man who had whilst in a fit fallen into the Humber Dock Basin, he jumped into the water, swam to the man, and got hold of him; but the poor fellow, from the agony he was enduring, struggled so furiously, tearing Ellerthorpe's hair and biting his face, and had not further assistance arrived there is no doubt that both would have been drowned. The silver medal of the Royal Humane Society and a small pecuniary gift are as yet the only tangible rewards that Ellerthorpe has received. Mr. James Clay, member for the borough, is endeavouring to procure for him the gold medal of the Royal Humane Society.

A GIRL SHOT IN A FROLIC.—At Normanton, near Ashby-de-la-Zouch, last week, a servant boy, sixteen or seventeen years of age, named Job Toon, in the absence of his master and mistress, took from the mantelpiece a gun which had been used for shooting crows in the morning. After looking at it some seconds, he turned round to a servant girl about his own age, who was attending to her duties in the kitchen, and said, "I'll shoot thee;" at the same time pointing the gun towards her. She replied cheerfully, "Shoot on—if there's no stuff in it!" (meaning, of course, powder and shot). Instantly he pulled the trigger, the charge carried her nose completely away, tore up one side of her face and injured the other. The police, having heard of the occurrence, proceeded to the house, arrested Toon, and closely questioned the girl as to the facts. She begged of them not to take him to prison, adding that she was sure he did not fire at her on purpose. She is expected to recover.

FRATRICIDE.—On Saturday evening last two brothers, named Atkinson, who lived with their father at the village of Dewley, Northumberland, quarrelled, and the one struck the other a violent blow which knocked him down. Recovering himself, the injured man seized a gun and shot his brother dead on the spot. The murderer was apprehended and lodged in Newcastle gaol.

RAILWAY ACCIDENT.—A serious accident occurred at Gateshead station on Saturday night. The mail from the south had arrived within about fifty yards of the platform when the fore axle gave way, and the engine ran into the first-class waiting-room of the station, and knocked down a large portion of the massive stone parapet on the bridge over Mill-street. No injury was sustained by the drivers or passengers, but a woman who was passing under the bridge received a severe blow on the head from one of the falling stones.

MURDER AT FROME.—A murder was committed at a short distance from Frome on the forenoon of Saturday last. Three labourers, who were on their return home from an engagement as reapers at Warminster, had a quarrel about the division of the money they had earned. One of them, Byard Greenland, is supposed to have drawn his knife and stabbed his companion, Uriah Greenland. The third labourer, William Milgrove, heard the wounded man call out, "Oh, Bill, he has hit the knife into me!" and went to the assistance of the fallen man, raised him in his arms, and placed him against the bank on the roadside, saying at the time to Byard, "Thee hast done for him." Milgrove procured the assistance of Mr. Mollam, surgeon, Frome, who, on his arrival at the scene of attack, found the unfortunate man quite dead. The prisoner has a wife and eight children, while the deceased had one child, and his widow is in expectation of being soon confined. An inquest has been held, and a verdict of "Wilful murder" returned against the prisoner.

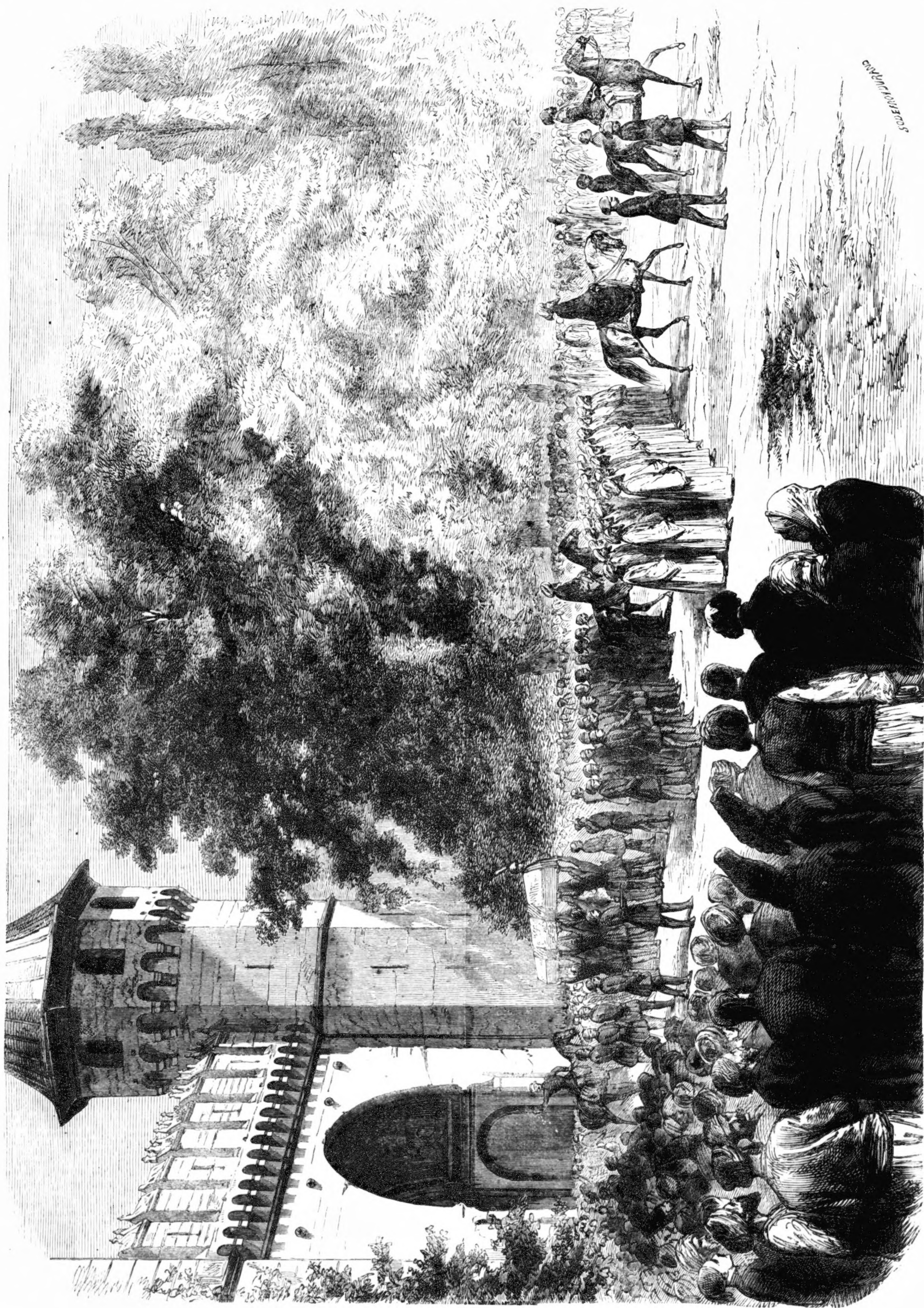
FATAL ACCIDENT AT THE PENRHYN SLATE QUARRY.—On Saturday morning one of the workmen in this quarry met with a most frightful death. A number of men were working at a rock two terraces above where this unfortunate man was in the habit of working, and they had driven rock-wedges or iron bars into a slit of the rock, but, finding that those wedges told very perceptibly upon the rock, they decided, intending to throw it down when the other quarrymen were at breakfast and out of danger. The layers are vertical in this part of the quarry, and whether the workmen had miscalculated the power of the wedges upon the rock, or whether other causes of which they were not cognisant operated upon them, the mass was perceived to give way, and hardly could the usual warning of danger be given before an immense piece of rock fell, which, passing one terrace, lighted with a crash upon the next below it, where several men were busily engaged. Being taken so unexpectedly, the means of escape were in a manner cut off. One block of stone, probably five tons in weight, struck a poor man down, shattering him in a most awful manner. His heart was found entire about five yards from the body, and when seen first actually palpitated; an arm likewise was literally cut off and thrown from the body. His shattered frame presented a most awful spectacle. A little lad who was working about three yards from the deceased, seeing the rock falling, attempted to escape, but before he had taken two steps he fell, and there he lay amid the falling stones, sustaining no further injury than that occasioned by the fall. Another person stood unharmed on the very edge of the same terrace; a small stone would have been sufficient to hurl him over the precipice, but providentially all passed him. Three men who were suspended by ropes were in the most imminent danger; fragments of rock fell over their heads, and had they perished by which they hung been cut by the falling rock, their deaths in all probability would have followed, they being suspended at about fifteen yards. The deceased was a native of Denbighshire. Happily, he was unmarried. He was about forty-five years old.

LADY LONDONDERRY AND HER SCHOOL CHILDREN.—On Saturday last the fifteenth great annual gathering of the children attending the schools at Lady Londonderry's collieries took place at Seaham Colliery. There were 1211 children present, who were liberally regaled with tea and cake after an examination of proficiency, exhibition of work, &c., and a distribution of prizes had taken place. The day was passed in much enjoyment, though marred by an accident which happened to one of the boys, who fell from a wagon and received injuries which unhappily resulted in his death. As usual, the Marchioness delivered an address to the children.

CUTTING DOWN A TELEGRAPH POST.—At the Beaconsfield Petty Sessions, on Tuesday, Mr. Frederick Charlesley, a solicitor, of Missenden, was charged with inducing a number of labouring men to cut down a telegraph post, and paying them 10s. 6d. for so doing. That the post had been cut down as alleged was not denied, but it was urged in justification that those who erected the post had no legal authority, and that it was in a dangerous position, and was a nuisance. The magistrates, however, decided against the accused, and convicted him in a penalty of 1s., ordered him to pay £5 damages, and costs amounting to probably £50.

HER MAJESTY'S VISIT TO IRELAND.—All the arrangements for the reception of her Majesty at Dublin are complete. The Queen is expected to reach the Irish capital on Thursday or Friday next, and it is anticipated that her reception will be a most enthusiastic one. On Saturday, the 24th, she will go to attend a grand review at the Curragh; on Monday, the 26th, she will start for the Lakes of Killarney; and on the 28th or 29th will bid adieu to the Green Isle and proceed to Balmoral, Scotland, taking Edinburgh en route.

THE LAST EVENING REPRESENTATION this season of Mr. and Mrs. German Reed's entertainment at the Royal Gallery of Illustration will take place on Friday, Aug. 30; and the last morning performance on Saturday, the 31st. Mr. and Mrs. Reed and Mr. John Parry will not visit the provinces this autumn, but will resume their London season, on returning from a short Continental tour, in October, when novelties of an interesting character, including several new ballads, will be introduced into "Our Card-basket" and "The Two Rival Composers."



FUNERAL OF THE LATE SULTAN ABDUL-MEDJID AT CONSTANTINOPLE.

THE LATE AND THE PRESENT SULTAN.

THE funeral of the late Sultan was the first ceremony which claimed the attention of Abdul Aziz after his installation; and our Engraving represents the solemn procession passing through the gate of the Palace of Top Capon. The coffin which contained the remains of the dead potentate was of a very plain description, having no more ornament than a little velvet trimming. It was borne by the "baltadjes," or servants of the palace, who held it aloft, with their hands stretched above their heads—the usual custom of carrying the Sultans to their last resting-place.

Following the coffin came the weeping eunuchs, who carried handkerchiefs in their hands; while these, again, were followed by a mounted officer, who distributed money to the crowd. On each side of the coffin two attendants carried salvers on which incense was kept burning.

The cortège was led by the "cavas," or Turkish household troops, followed by a number of Arabs from Mecca, in their white robes, who chanted prayers, in which they were joined by the "baltadjes," who made great lamentation. These were, again, followed by two "mollahs" on horseback; and lastly by a troop of soldiers preceding the Grand Vizier and the Ministers of State.

Thus the body of the late Sultan was conveyed to the tomb; and even before this ceremony his successor had given reason for hope that there may be a future for Turkey in which she may be redeemed from the degradation into which she had sunk during the reign of Abdul Medjid.

Abdul Aziz is said to be the very reverse of his weak and effeminate brother. Born on Feb. 9, 1830, he is at present in the full vigour of age, since it would appear that he has lived a life whose simplicity and disregard of luxury has maintained that health and intellectual activity which was prematurely lost by the late unfortunate Sultan. It may be remarked that not only the vigour and decision but also the irreproachable morals of Abdul Aziz have already produced a great effect upon the people, who begin to recognise the sober economy which is the peculiar characteristic of his policy. Not only has the new Sultan always displayed a regularity of life and activity of demeanour which is rare amongst Turks of high position, but he has hitherto repudiated the possession of more than one wife, to whom he has kept faithful in spite of the customs of the whole line of Sultans who have preceded him. Immediately on his accession, Abdul Aziz issued an Imperial "hatt," addressed to the Grand Vizier, in which he expounded the line of policy he intended to adopt. His firm intention was, he said, to secure order in the administration and the financial affairs of the empire, and, at the same time, to maintain the discipline and the effectiveness of both land and sea forces. The bent of his foreign politics would be to strengthen more and more the amicable relations existing between the Ottoman empire and her allies, and to preserve the greatest respect to already existing treaties.

"All my people," says he, "who are of different religions and different races shall find in me the same justice, the same solicitude, and the same determination to secure their happiness." Under these

circumstances, then, it may well be believed that the reforms which the new Sultan has personally set about effecting will save the Turkish empire from that utter decay with which it has so long been threatened.

On the 31st ult. the new Sultan gave audience to the British Ambassador, Sir Henry Bulwer, who was received with the utmost cordiality by his Majesty. Sir Henry read an address congratulating the Sultan on his accession, and expressing the goodwill of the Sovereign and people he represented. To this Abdul Aziz read a reply in Turkish, of which the following is a translation:—He had long, he said, been sensible of the value to Turkey of the alliance with England, whose friendship was as disinterested as it was sincere; and the assurance that it was to be continued to himself, as it had been to his predecessor, would be one of the most substantial encouragements he could receive at the outset of his reign to grapple with and overcome the difficulties which the abused mildness of his august brother had bequeathed to him. To the Ambassador himself he paid a high personal compliment, couched in language almost too friendly to be official, and which certainly augurs well for Sir Henry's individual interest with his Majesty. The reply over, the presentation of the members of his Excellency's suite then followed, after which the Sultan rose from the divan on which he had till then sat, and, taking Sir Henry's hand, led him over to a recess of one of the windows, and there chatted *sotto voce*, in French, for nearly ten minutes. The whole of the party then withdrew to another ante-room, where sherbets and other refresh-



COSSACKS OF THE KUBAN.

REVOLT OF COSSACKS.

THE Cossack regiments attached to the Russian army of the Caucasus form several lines, which are complete military colonies. They conquer the soil from the enemy, and there establish themselves, with their families, guarding their acquired possessions *sabre* in hand. The lines of these military villages are, as a matter of course, gradually advanced, and, as it were, mark the progress of conquest. Prince Bariatsky lately, in order to gain ground, ordered such Cossacks as had no families to make a movement in advance, and it so happened that the Cossacks of the Regiment of Khopersk were those fixed on to compose the advanced guard and form a new line. These men form a body who have covered themselves with glory during the wars in the Caucasus. This regiment had established itself on the side of the Kuban, and, the ground being good, they had, from their skill in agricultural labours, become rich. That fact had made it the interest of the subordinate agents of the Government to get them dislodged from the place where they were, and sent forward to form the new advanced guard. The Cossacks, however, heard of the project, and sent a deputation to Prince Bariatsky to remonstrate against their removal; but they were not allowed to have an interview with the General. A promise was, however, given them that the old men and the fathers of families should not be sent to form the advanced guard; but soon after Prince Bariatsky quitted the Caucasus, General Eodikimoff gave orders for all of them to quit their houses and lands and march forward. They refused to do so, and troops and artillery were sent to enforce obedience to the orders of the General. This harshness roused them to rebellion, and, quitting their families, and taking with them only their arms, they went over in a body and joined the enemies of the Russians.

THE VOLUNTEERS AND THEIR DEFECTS.

THE season having arrived when the more wealthy of the members of our metropolitan rifle corps forego the fatigues of drill for the country and the seaside, the ranks of many of the regiments are beginning to thin, and the musters are becoming every day "small by degrees and beautifully less." Not only does this state of things result from the more aristocratic or moderately wealthy members of the various corps absenting themselves from the military parades, but from the fact of those who, as members of rifle corps, fill the more humble positions of life feeling that they too are entitled to their holiday, and entertaining, therefore, a general repugnance to appear on parade when small musters take place. Some of the commanders have therefore issued regimental orders abandoning all parades and drills, except for recruits, for a period of a month or six weeks, at the end of which time they may reasonably expect the members to return with renewed strength and full of vigour to a resumption of their duties. There can be no doubt that the season just closing has been a most successful one for the volunteer movement all over the kingdom, and that, whether as regards efficiency of drill, the number of tests for that efficiency, or the vast augmentation in the strength of the respective regiments, the superiority of the volunteer forces in every department and in every way has been manifest. There are, however, some points in reference to the movement which still call for amendment, and for strict attention both on the part of officers as well as men—points which have been before touched upon. In the first place, it cannot be too strongly or too repeatedly urged upon officers who mainly have attained their position through the suffrages of the men, not only in the metropolitan but all other counties of the kingdom, that they should, when they have attained their post of distinction, never cease to recollect that the men they command are volunteers—that they are not the sweepings of the

ments were laid out, after partaking of which they embarked at the Grand Scala in boats of the Intrepid, which conveyed them on board the latter vessel, which then saluted the Turkish flag with twenty-one guns, making, by-the-way, atrociously irregular firing in doing so. Bad, however, as was the gunnery, it was replied to by a Turkish corvette in front of the palace with a rapidity and regularity which would not have discredited the Excellent or the Victory.

Of the Sultan's anxiety to develop the resources of his empire, and thereby contribute to the prosperity and happiness of the people, we have an example in the measures described in the following extract of a letter from Constantinople, dated the 3rd inst.:

"A special administration of mines and forests has just been formed under the direction of Dervish Pacha, formerly the representative of Turkey at St Petersburg. Dervish Pacha is a man well acquainted with such matters, and the selection of him for this new post proves that the Sultan is desirous of turning all his intelligence to good account. This new institution is, moreover, an excellent thing in itself. Every one knows that Turkey possesses considerable riches in mines and forests, which only require to be properly worked and attended to. Hitherto the Sublime Porte has always shown an aversion to allowing foreign capitalists to have anything to do with their working; but the Sultan Abdul Aziz does not appear to be of this opinion. He has expressed himself in a very categorical manner on the subject, and the only thing now to be done is to regulate the conditions on which Europeans may be allowed to undertake the regular working of the mines and forests of the empire. This will be for the moment the principal point which Dervish Pacha will have to attend to. The Sultan still continues to display the most extraordinary activity, visiting the different ministries, manufactories, dépôts, &c. The day before yesterday he went to Cheik-ul-Islam Capissi, and to-morrow he is to go to Ismet to inspect a steam screw-frigate which is being built there."

country, not men from the plough tail. They should reflect that many of them are quite equal in position to themselves, although only serving in the ranks, and that the remainder, or at least the great majority, are honest, industrious, and intelligent artisans, the bone and sinew of the country. Commissioned officers, from the Colonel downwards, however high and aristocratic their station or name, should remember that they hold their command by the suffrages of the men placed under them, and that at any time, by fourteen days' notice, any misconduct or overbearing demeanour on their part may find them without a company or a corps. They should also do away with that dogmatical and coercive conduct which we regret to say has exhibited itself on the part of those in authority in some of our metropolitan corps. In one of the northern districts of London at this moment, there is a proceeding taking place which induces the foregoing remarks, and has produced a very serious disruption in one of our earliest enrolled metropolitan corps, which happens, unfortunately for itself, to be battalioned with another commanded by a nobleman. So far have hostile proceedings been carried in reference to the corps in question that we understand it has been deprived of its arms, or is prohibited from marching out with them, and it is even rumoured that, to gratify the caprice of a single individual, steps are being taken to induce the Lord Lieutenant to disband the corps altogether. This is certainly not a state of affairs calculated to bring about a good feeling between the volunteers and those who are set in command over them. There is likewise another important point for the consideration of commanding officers of rifle corps, and that is, the desire exhibited on the part of Colonels and others, without consulting the men, to act in accordance with their own whims and fancies, regardless of the expense it may inflict upon the effectives, in making from time to time alterations in the uniforms. By this means a large amount of dissatisfaction has been created in one or two northern metropolitan battalions, in one instance reducing the corps to a mere handful of men. Those in authority seem to forget that the expense in all these matters of uniform rests upon the volunteers themselves, and that any change which their whims or fancies may suggest is a direct tax upon the men under their command. If, when they have these desires for change come over them, they would put their hands into their own pockets and pay the expenses, there might not then be so much objection to the proceeding; but when it falls upon others it is their policy, as well as their duty, to be a little more cautious in such matters. Having said so much about the commanders and other authorities of rifle corps, at this moment a few words may not be considered unseasonable in respect to the effectives themselves. It has been observed in many regiments that with the advanced perfection in drill there has arisen an amount of carelessness amongst the rank and file in companies, an assumption of confidence that they can do it properly if they like, and, therefore, a sort of "We don't choose to trouble ourselves" exhibition on certain occasions. Nor is this confined to the privates, who, when marching past by companies, through gross carelessness, and not feeling, as they ought to do, their left or right hand man, as the case may be, break the line, and are consequently either a foot in front or a foot in rear of their neighbour. This generally happens in the centre of a company, and when it does it is the duty of the supernumerary rank to push the careless ones forward and make them keep their position. Too frequently, however, the sergeants are either gossiping together or looking about them, and the result is that their company, aided by these inattentions, cuts a sorry figure. This was observed in some companies even on so important an occasion as the late Wimbledon review, when the volunteers marched past the Duke of Cambridge. Another most reprehensible practice, and that which ought to be visited with the greatest severity, even with expulsion if necessary, is that of falling out and rushing into public-houses on the march. Every man should remember that whilst on the march he is on duty, and that when one man takes such a liberty he induces others to follow his example, and thus, instead of a regiment on the march looking, as it ought to look, a well-organised and disciplined body, they degenerate into a disorganised and irregular mob. In this respect officers in command of companies cannot be too particular. Again, in marching at ease, we have observed a most careless and unmilitary proceeding in men carrying their arms in all possible ways, some over the shoulders, butt end upwards, others under their arms, others at the trail, having a most irregular and untidy appearance. Every rifle is provided with a strap; and it is the most easy as well as the best-looking way, when marching at ease, for every volunteer to sling his rifle over the left shoulder. This would beget uniformity as well as comfort to every man in the ranks, which is not now the case.—*Observer.*

THE BRITISH ARCHEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.—Preparations for the annual meeting of this society at Exeter on the 19th inst. have been made by the authorities. The ancient Guildhall has been thoroughly painted and varnished, and the portraits of historical characters "touched up." Altar rails also been made at Rougemont Castle by its proprietor, Mr. R. S. Gard, M.P., so that the association may have a better opportunity of seeing this ancient and interesting structure, which Shakespeare has thus immortalised in "Richard III."—

in "Richard III."—

When last I was at Exeter
The mayor, in courtesy, showed me the castle,
And called it Rougemont.

The president, Sir S. Northcote, M.P., will inaugurate the meeting of the society by an address at the Royal Public Rooms, after which the members will visit Rougemont Castle and other antiquities in the city. In the evening there will be a soiree at the Devon and Exeter Institution, and a paper on Exeter Cathedral will be read by Mr. C. E. Davis, F.S.A. On Tuesday the members will visit the cathedral, and afterwards proceed to Pynes, the seat of the president. There will also be other excursions on the same day, and in the evening papers will be read. On Wednesday there will be visits to Ford Abbey and to Ottery St. Mary, where the members will be received by Sir John Coleridge. On Thursday there will be a united meeting of the association and the Exeter Diocesan Architectural Society, and excursions to Kent's Cavern, Torquay, &c. On Friday an excursion to Bradfield House, near Cullumpton, and a reception by Mr. Walrond are announced. On Saturday there will be an excursion to Dartmouth and Berry Pomeroy Castle, and on the following Monday it is proposed to arrange a party to proceed to Dartmoor, with a view to examine its most remarkable antiquities. The members will be entertained by the Teign Naturalists' Field Club, from whom the association has received an obliging invitation.

Mr. T. S. DUNCOMB, M. P., having lately received an address from the people of Prush, thanking him for the interest and sympathy he has shown in their struggle with Austria, and expressing their high admiration of the exertions he has made for the promotion of liberty both at home and abroad, the hon. gentleman has returned an answer, which thus concludes:—"I think it would be well if the family of Hapsburg would reflect upon the fate of the Bourbons at Naples, otherwise, like that detested dynasty, its day may come, and, like the Bourbons, only be remembered by the wrongs they perpetrated, and the tyranny they happily failed to establish."

THE VICTORIA CROSS.—The Victoria Cross has been conferred on the following officers and soldiers for gallant conduct in the recent war in China, principally for achievements at the capture of the Taku forts.—Capt. Robert Rogers, 80th Regiment; Private John M'Dougall, 4th Regiment; Lieut. C. H. Lenon, 67th Regiment; Capt. Nathaniel Burslem, 60th Regiment; Private Thomas Lane, 67th Regiment; Lieut. John Worthing Chaplin, 100th Regiment; and Arthur Fitzgibbon, hospital apprentice, Indian Medical Establishment.

PURCHASE OF COMMISSIONS.—A circular memorandum has been issued from the Horse Guards intimating that "the Queen has been pleased to approve that the purchase of the officers' commissions in the corps of the Yeomen of the Guard should cease at the earliest possible moment, and to order that the future vacancies in the corps should be filled up by officers of the Army, of long and good service, to be selected from a list to be kept at the Horse Guards by the General Commanding-in-Chief, the recommendation being made to her Majesty in each case, as now, by the Captain of the corps. Any of the officers who acquired their commissions by purchase, and are desirous of retiring from the corps, upon communication with the Captain, will receive from the Secretary of State for War an amount in compensation thereof, and a successor will be appointed to the vacancy who, however, it must be clearly understood, will not be allowed to sell his commission. This order is not to be retrospective, or to apply to those officers of the Army now in the corps who have been appointed on the recommendation of the General Commanding-in-Chief."

DEATH OF THE LORD BISHOP OF DURHAM.

THE Bishop of Durham, after a short but very severe illness, expired on Friday morning week, at his palace, Auckland Castle.

Henry Montagu Villiers, D.D., was the fifth son of the Hon. George Villiers, brother of the late Earl of Clarendon. His grandmother was the eldest daughter of Lady Jane Hyde (Countess of Essex), the last representative of the old Clarendon family; and a younger son of Lord Jersey marrying her was, in her honour, created successively Baron Hyde and Earl of Clarendon. Of the lady's grandchildren there now survive Lord Clarendon; Mr. Charles P. Villiers, who took a prominent part in the Free-trade controversy, and is at this moment President of the Poor-law Board; and Lady Theresa Lewis, who is well known both as an authoress and as the wife of one of our foremost statesmen. Mr. Montagu Villiers was born in London on the 4th of January, 1813. He was educated at Christ Church, Oxford, and took his degree in 1834. Shortly afterwards he was ordained by Dr. Sumner, now Archbishop of Canterbury, and commenced his labours as Curate of Deane, in Lancashire. In 1837 he was appointed to the living of Kenilworth; in 1841 he was translated to the metropolitan rectory of St. George's, Bloomsbury; and in 1847 he was made a Canon of St. Paul's. It was as Rector of St. George's that he made his reputation. He displayed great ability and an untiring zeal in the management of his parish; and, though his style of preaching was not altogether calculated to attract men of highly-cultivated intellects—indeed, it was addressed rather to the poor in intellectual as well as worldly gifts; and though, consequently, he did not succeed in creating any marked impression upon men of cultivation, he worked vigorously with the Dissenters. There were Dissenters in his vestry who eagerly supported him. He turned the City Mission to account, and with men of every sect and stamp who belong to the so-called Evangelical order he had the most ample sympathy.

As Rector of St. George's, Bloomsbury, the Rev. H. Montagu Villiers made himself a great name, and this not merely as an earnest preacher, but, what is far more difficult, as for fifteen years the hard-working, much-travelling pastor of a parish that numbered about 17,000 souls. Spite of a recent occurrence which gave rise to much criticism, it may safely be said that few men have entered the Church with more disinterested views, or have toiled in it with more self-denying energy. He had a genial, easy nature, and his hard work seemed to have agreed with him wonderfully. His portly figure and rubicund countenance presented the very picture of health and episcopal comfort. As he entered the House of Lords with the pale and careworn Lord Clarendon, people said it was easy to see which brother served the Church, and which the State. Thirteen years the junior of that brother, he breaks down in all the fulness of his powers at the age of forty-eight, and in his death reminds us who have lately heard so much of the fatal effects of overwork that there are other diseases not less fatal, though they are more easily avoided.

No minister in London was more popular than Mr. Villiers when in 1856 he was appointed by Lord Palmerston to the bishopric of Carlisle. It was a step to a still higher promotion, for only last year he was translated to the see of Durham. He proved himself not less energetic in a diocese than he had been in a parish, and there seemed to be before him long years of useful work. Durham is the diocese, of all others in the country, in which the increase of population has lately been greatest, and in which the spiritual provision had been most deficient. Great things were expected from the energy and tact of Dr. Villiers, and the Evangelical party regarded with particular interest the man who filled so princely a chair and undertook so vast a work. His first conspicuous act in his new sphere of labour certainly disappointed his admirers, though his premature death will now be considered, if not to justify, yet to excuse it; for he has died by no means a rich man, and leaves a widow, three daughters besides Mrs. Cheese, and two sons. However incautiously he may have acted on the occasion to which we refer, he never lost the esteem of those who knew him best; and the strong interest which vast numbers of people, Dissenters as well as Churchmen, have taken in his last illness is the most eloquent of all comments upon his life and character. Not only in his diocese but throughout the country, in all the large towns, Dissenters of every denomination have combined with Churchmen to offer up prayers for his recovery. Seldom are ecclesiastical dignitaries the object of such affectionate solicitude; seldom is their departure felt so universally as a great public loss.

His Lordship married, Jan. 30, 1837, Amelia Maria, eldest daughter of Mr. W. Hulton, of Hulton Park, Lancashire, by whom he has issue two sons and four daughters. The eldest son, Henry Montagu, obtained an honorary fourth at Oxford last year, recently married a daughter of Earl Russell, and is now Curate of Bishopwearmouth.

The funeral of the lamented prelate took place on Thursday in the chapel of Auckland Castle, and was conducted, according to the expressed wishes of the deceased, in entire privacy—only the family being present.

The bishopric of Durham is worth £8000 a year, but in old times it was worth fully £30,000, and the Bishop was Count Palatine of Durham. He is patron of certain canonries worth £1000 a year, and of some very valuable livings, among them Bishopwearmouth (£1830), Easington (£1300), Egglecliffe (£1050), Houghton-le-Skerne (£1000), Houghton-le-Spring (£1600), and Whitburne (£1100).

In the event of a clergyman being appointed directly to the bishopric of Durham, instead of the translation of a Bishop taking place, there will be no difference made in the spiritual peerage, as the new Bishop will be entitled to take his seat at once as Bishop of Durham, under the Manchester Bishopric Act. Should, however, any Bishop be promoted to the richer see of Durham, as will in all probability be the case, Dr. Philpott, the recently-consecrated Bishop of Worcester, will be entitled to take his seat in the House of Lords at the commencement of the next Session, and will have to perform the duties of junior Bishop, now discharged by the Bishop of Carlisle.

A report is in circulation in clerical circles that Dr. Jackson, Bishop of Lincoln, is likely to be transferred to the bishopric of Durham, rendered vacant by the death of the Hon. and Right Rev. Dr. Villiers, and that Dr. Jackson will be succeeded in the bishopric of Lincoln by the Rev. Eardley Wilmot, M.A., Rector of All Souls' Church, St. Marylebone, an intimate friend of Sir Roundell Palmer, the new Solicitor-General. The rev. gentleman succeeded Dr. Villiers in the vicarage of Kenilworth. Another report mentions the Dean of Westminster as likely to be raised to the episcopal bench in consequence of the present vacancy.

MARCHING OF VOLUNTEERS.—At Newcastle the other day Colonel M'Murdo, in addressing the volunteers whom he was reviewing, pointed out the absolute necessity of having one uniform step, which was only to be attained by frequent marching en masse. He had observed, he said, that the corps, although otherwise very efficient, lost two or three paces of the right number per minute, and pointed out that this would amount in a day's march to about three miles, or one hour in time—just sufficient, in the event of their services being required on a particular spot at a given time, to make their arrival too late to be of service.

ROYAL YACHT SQUADRON REGATTA.—The contest for the Royal Yacht Squadron prize of £100 took place on Friday last week, and resulted in an easy victory to the *Chrystabel*, belonging to Mr. H. H. Kennard. The annual ball took place on Friday evening week, and was numerous and fashionably attended.

DRAMATIC SICK FUND ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting of this society was held on Wednesday in the saloon of Drury-lane Theatre—Mr Benjamin Webster, president, in the chair—when a very satisfactory report was read and adopted, officers for the ensuing year elected, and thanks voted to the president and the other retiring office-bearers for their services during the year just close.

THE ARCHDUKE MAXIMILIAN OF AUSTRIA AT
SOUTHAMPTON.

THE Archduke Frederick Maximilian of Austria, High Admiral of the Empire, accompanied by the Archduchess, arrived at Southampton on Wednesday for the purpose of inspecting the docks and ascertaining the facilities of the port with a view to its selection as the terminus of a line of steamers to run between England and Austria. After inspecting the docks and harbour, their Imperial Highnesses partook of a déjeuner provided by the Mayor and Corporation, when an interchange of good wishes in the shape of toasts took place. Mr. Roebuck, M.P., was present, and made a speech in which he defended the policy of the Emperor of Austria in his attempted consolidation of the empire in opposition to the wishes of the Hungarians and others. Among other things, Mr. Roebuck said:—

We have now amongst us one who is a near relation to a great Monarch who has attempted to bring about in his dominions constitutional government; and I would say that in so doing he has met with all those prejudices, those ignorances, and those mistakes that constantly attend men who attempt to do good to their fellow-beings. He has attempted to bring into the country which he rules—a great, a commanding country in Europe—a constitutional Government, of which we afford so admirable a type. He has not attempted to make any of that empire supreme over the rest, but he has attempted to make all equally alike, and to make them to be equally represented in the Imperial Parliament of Austria. Now, that, I say, is a thing that ought to enlist itself in every Englishman's mind; and however there may be persons who endeavour to mislead, however there may be persons governed by interest to induce us to believe the contrary of what is the truth, the Empire of Austria at the present time is attempted to be made a constitutional Government by the Imperial relative of our honoured guest on this occasion. He has had to meet with great difficulties—difficulties which we know, for we have attempted and accomplished the same thing. We have made hostile communities, differing in language and religion, one united empire. That he is attempting now to do. That he is believed, that he is maligned, that he is misrepresented, belongs only to mankind; but let him be assured that he will be cheered onward in his path by all well-conducted and well-thinking Englishmen, and that they will endeavour to do all they can to aid him in his great and beneficent task.

HARVEST PROSPECTS.

There was a very strong breeze throughout the first day of last week, so that all corn previously cut was in a fit state for being carried on the Monday, when a great breadth of land was cleared in all the early districts. Tuesday proved remarkably fine, and harvest work went on well. From Lincolnshire, on that day, a correspondent says: "I never saw the ears so well-filled as they are this year. The thin crops are, however, storm-broken, and the good crops lodged; yet I expect a good sample and a fair yield. Potatoes are unmistakably afflicted with the old disease, which, however, dry weather may somewhat mitigate."

The favourable state of the weather continued up to Wednesday night week, after having had three most favourable days for the reapers. From Norfolk on that day it was stated: "The weather is remarkably fine, and on early lands cutting is begun; and we shall have some new samples of wheat on Saturday. As soon as thrashing allows, I will give you information as to yield. If weather continues fine, I think the large ear and quality will quite make up for any thinness of plant. Barley varies, but on the whole will be a good crop. Beans are defective in places. Peas good."

Throughout Wednesday night week and a considerable part of Thursday there was a heavy fall of rain, which put a complete stop to harvest work; but many say that their barleys, both cut and uncut, were materially benefited by the moisture, being both mellowed and yellowed, and so rendered more suitable for the malsters. From Saffron Walden, on that day, our correspondent writes:—"The harvest in this district has now become pretty general. We have had thirty hours' rain, which has interrupted further proceedings. Probably half the wheat is cut, but nothing carried beyond a field or two of forward oats. Should the weather now take up fine, no injury, but rather benefit, will accrue from the wet. Barley will probably be much improved, as it appears to be ripening prematurely. I hear from reliable authority that the crops in the southern part of the county do not promise nearly so well as in the north." From Suffolk, neighbourhood of Woodbridge, same day, it was stated:—"Our reports of the quality of the new wheat-to-day are good, but at present it is too early to speak of the yield. We have rain to-day, which is much wanted for everything in this dry district, if we do not get too much of it."

Whilst the weather has been so fine in the south, in Scotland heavy falls of rain had been experienced, and occasional floods on the west coast. Their crops progressed slowly to maturity; and it will be fourteen days before harvest becomes general. The reports are of a varied character; and there is some apprehension that the potatoes are affected this season in North Britain.

From the West Riding of Yorkshire, on Friday week, it was stated:—"With fine weather the wheat harvest will soon be pretty general in this district, but especially towards Doncaster. The quality will be good; but I cannot think the yield will be all good." From Lancashire on the same day it was observed:—"With the barley has not come lately very nicely, for it seems to be thin, and without curl. Oats, perhaps, might do good, and whilst I am writing it has begun to fall; at any rate we can never expect to equal the sample of the Kentish, we have seen." So far as thrashing has proceeded the yield of wheat is in nearly every case disappointing. Three quarters, two quarters and a half, and one quarter to six bushels per acre, have been reported of the Talavera. We have not heard the result of other sorts, which, it is to be hoped, will be better; otherwise the deficiency will be great, and the thin plant not compensated for by large heads wide apart. Quality in most seasons produces quantity, but this year will be an exception; and such is not only the case in England but in many parts of the south of Europe, the severity of the winter being the chief cause. The weather proved favourable on the Friday, and remarkably fine on Saturday—sunny and breezy, with the thermometer up to 73, wind westerly, and the barometer well up—so that a large quantity of grain was secured in prime condition.—*Mark-lane Express.*

NEW HOPS.—The first pocket of the growth of 1861 arrived in London on Tuesday, the growth of Mr. John M. Hooker, Moatlands, Brencley, Kent. The plant from which this pocket was picked is of the same sort as has furnished the earliest hops for some years past, and known as the "Brencley prolific." The quality, for so early in the season, is unusually good.

HARVEST PROSPECTS IN DRIED FRUITS.—Letters from Greece and the Ionian Islands, under date of the 27th and 30th ult., report the crop of currants to be progressing satisfactorily. At Patras the cutting is to commence about the middle of this month; great heat by day, with heavy dews at night, tending to ripen the fruit. At Zante the crops have been in measure affected by the intense heat, which, whilst causing some quantity of the berry to burst, has compensated for the loss thus caused by filling out the crop generally. The first cargo of currants is not expected to arrive in London till some days later than last year's; the first arrival then being August 30. In Spain the raisin harvest is rather short. Scalding was to commence next week, and, as the vines have not suffered much from blight, superior quality is anticipated.

AN IMPERIAL ACQUAINTANCE.—Whilst the Emperor of the French was at Vichy he was taking a walk on the banks of the Sichon and lost his way. A labourer chancing to pass at the time, his Majesty made the necessary inquiry of him. "Second to the right and then first to the left, Sire," said the man. "What! you know me?" "Yes; and have had the honour for years past." "Where?" "Your Majesty, of course, does not remember me, but you were once the cause of my passing two days in the black-hole; for when you were at Ham I was a soldier there, and was punished for passing you in a pound of tobacco." "Well," said the Emperor, "it shall be my turn now;" and a few days afterwards the man was installed in a well-stocked tobaccoist's shop.—*Court Journal.*

AN OFFICIAL "WASHER AND WRINGER."—Amongst the incidents of the visit of the Lords of the Admiralty to the royal dockyards last week may be mentioned the interview of Mrs. Whitcombe, who for some twenty-two years was the washerwoman of the Royal Naval Hospital at Stonehouse. During the greater part of this good woman's service at the hospital washhouse she had expected that her retirement would be rendered somewhat free from care by a small pension, but sufficient for her wants. But before the time arrived for her to lay down the soap and bid adieu to the suds reform had been at work, and the Superannuation Bills became law; and the consequence was that she found the hope which for a score of years had been her comfort and consolation swept away, and that when her arms had failed of their wringing power she was bereft of the means of aiding any better to her bread even if she obtained the bread. She naturally felt her fate to be a hard one, and, on the recent visit of the Lords of the Admiralty, determined to tell them so; and, having managed to obtain an audience of the Duke of Somerset, she told her plain unvarnished tale so well that his Grace was pleased to give her so encouraging an answer that she left with the confident hope that it would be made "all right" on the return of their Lordships to London.

THE FIRM OF JAMES COSTER, BEATER, DENNANT, and FURS, warehousemen, Aldermanbury, stopped payment last week. The liabilities are said to amount to about £260,000. The suspension is partly attributed to the defalcation of two confidential clerks, both of whom are in custody.

Literature.

Readings in the Elucidation of the Autograph of Milton. By (the late) SAMUEL LEIGH SOTHEY, F.S.A., Author of the "Principia Typographica." London: Printed for the Author by Thomas Richards, &c.

Since this curious volume has been completed, sudden and accidental death has deprived the world of any further labours of its author. The work acquires an additional interest as being "the latest, dearest one" of a gentleman whose name will ever, though not in the very proudest capacity, be honourably associated with the literary matters of this century. It is essentially a labour of love, and one which will endear the labourer not only to the antiquarian world but to the numbers who hang with affection on every thing Miltonian. It is fortunate that of England's "second best" bard so much is known and so much preserved. There is scarcely an authentic scrap of Shakespeare to be had. But of Milton, from the manuscripts preserved in Trinity College, Cambridge, and elsewhere, it was possible for the studious Mr. Sothey to compile the handsome and attractive volume before us. Description of it need be but brief. It is a massive volume of nearly three hundred pages, imperial quarto, of the finest paper and the clearest type; whilst, as for the "outer hull," as Mr. Carlyle would call it, the binding, it is a wonderful model of artistic ingenuity as a combination of morocco leather and wood engraving. The contents are admirably-executed facsimiles of various specimens of the Milton "autograph"—that word being used in its more correct, and less modern, sense of the handwriting generally, and not of the signature particularly. There are specimens of the Sonnets, of "Comus," of "Paradise Lost," of "Lycidas," and of various writings domestic and of State affairs. The careful elucidations of Mr. Sothey give the proper value to many of these which have hitherto held an erroneous position of honour. From a certain period, after the blindness, many of the so-called "autographs" were the labour of amanuenses, and these appear to be very carefully and satisfactorily sifted and set at rest. The letterpress (as well, indeed, as the engravings) contains also many interesting features which hang around the name of Milton, honouring and honoured. There are scraps from Andrew Marvell down to Simmonds of the celebrated five pounds; and, although the general public might object that the book is too erratic and gossiping, these are the very objections which will endear it to the student, the antiquarian, and the collector. True Miltonians will not find one word too many.

The work is to be sold by auction on Thursday next, Aug. 22. There are but 625 copies printed, and at the lowest price at which each copy will be put up for competition will be three guineas. In apology for what is apparently so high a price, and after explanation of the extraordinary expense attending the production of so laborious a work, Mr. Sothey says, in almost his last words, "Yet withal, I do not despair of learning on the eve of Thursday, Aug. 22, that like the 'Principia Typographica,' all the copies were sold; the more so because I conscientiously feel that, unless the work had been done *con amore*, it could not have been issued at anything like the price of £3 3s." Secure in this belief, Mr. Sothey further announces, in proof of the *con amore* that he desires to put "no money in his purse," but that the pecuniary benefits anticipated from the sale of the "Milton's Autographs" will be given to the respective funds of the Booksellers' Provident Society, the Literary Fund, the Printers' Provident Society, and the Royal Dramatic College. There is no doubt but that all the copies will find ready purchasers. It is a book that must be added to all first-class libraries, and essentially one of those rarities in literature which acquire a greater reputation and value with the rolling years.

Autobiography of Miss Cornelia Knight, Lady Companion to the Princess Charlotte of Wales. With Extracts from her Journals and Anecdote Books. Two vols. W. H. Allen and Co.

Granting the interest of the topic, and supposing anybody cares to read about George III., the Prince Regent, the Princess Charlotte, what Mr. Brougham said, how Heberden didn't agree with the others of the King's physicians, this book is all that could be desired, and not at all unpleasant reading. Miss Knight was unquestionably all that Mr. Kaye, the intelligent and conscientious editor, claims in her behalf—a real gentlewoman, of considerable ability, and great sincerity, kindness, and steadiness of character. Around the lady herself, therefore, clusters a great deal of the truest interest of the book, although occasional glimpses, not without suggestions, are given us of really great people. Students who are "reading up" the particular time in which Miss Knight flourished will know what to do with the book much better than we can tell them; but for cursory readers we cannot do better than pick out an anecdote here and there.

Dr. Johnson, of whose big wig little Cornelia stood in terror when a child, had an immense respect for soldiers and sailors who had really served their country. Being very curious to see the manner of living and the discipline on board a ship of war, he went to Portsmouth, and passed a very inquisitive fortnight on board the *Rumillies* a 74, to which Miss Knight's father was appointed at the time when war with Spain was expected. When Johnson left the ship in which he had made himself very agreeable, the young officer whom Knight had sent to see him on shore inquired if he had any further commands. "Sir," said Johnson, "have the goodness to thank the Commodore and all the officers for their kindness to me; and tell Mr. —, the First Lieutenant, that I beg he will leave off the practice of swearing." Upon which the young man made an attempt to excuse his superior, replying that unfortunately there was no making sailors do their duty without strong language, and that his Majesty's service required it. "Then pray, Sir," answered Johnson, "tell Mr. — that I beseech him not to use one oath more than is absolutely required for the service of his Majesty."

Those who have hitherto only known Lord Eldon in his character of *doctor dubitanti* in Chancery, and crocodile in relation to Queen Caroline's trial, may be amused to get this glimpse of

A CHANCELLOR IN HIS CUPS.

While I was talking to the Miss Fitzroys and others, the Chancellor came up to me, and began to shake me violently by the hand, which rather surprised me, as we had never been introduced to each other. He was not quite sober. He said he hoped I did not believe all the nonsense about his ill-treatment of Princess Charlotte, of which no doubt I had heard a lamentable story; and was going on, when I stopped him by saying that Princess Charlotte had not conversed with me at all on the subject, and that if any one had mentioned it to me it was the Queen. Not content with this, he came up to me in the same manner after the Royal family had gone down to supper, and entered again on the subject, in a very confused tone. I put him off by saying that really it was not my business to interfere in the Princess Charlotte's concerns, that I had only the honour of attending her, and that the Duchess of Leeds was the person who had the responsibility. This I said in a good-humoured way, and got rid of him at last.

A curious anecdote of a dog seems to have been told by a Countess du C— to Miss Knight. The story runs that a celebrated surgeon named Livois, in the French army, set the broken leg of a dog that had been hit by a ball. Some time afterwards the surgeon found waiting at his door the same dog with a companion dog, whose broken leg he was evidently expected to cure. Dog A introduced Dog B, and the second victim's limb was duly set and cured. After this will anybody smile at the advertisements in the newspapers for subscriptions to the *Home for Friendless Dogs*?

The Prince of Salm (whoever he may have been) fell in love with a young lady who was within a short time of taking the veil. He courted her at the convent grille, and found her not unkind. One day she begged for a lock of his hair. The next time he saw her he inquired if he might hope that she loved him. "So well," said the maiden, "that I have actually made a wig for the infant Jesus out

of the lock of hair you gave me; and if you come to my profession to-morrow you will see it on the altar."

The majority of the stories told by Miss Knight are extremely dull. She was a "well-regulated" person, and closed, as her editor says, her "well-regulated life" at eighty-one, having written verses within a few months of her death.

THE WARRIOR.

ON Thursday morning last week this grand frigate hoisted her pennant, and made her first brief voyage from Blackwall to Greenwich. Beyond the mere fact of its being the first voyage, there was not much of interest in the proceeding. She had the assistance of many powerful tugs, was under steam herself, and answered her helm so readily as to be always completely in hand. With such aids, notwithstanding the very strong wind and sharp turns in the river, she proved as manageable as a penny steam-boat, and within two hours of the time of her leaving the Victoria Dock was quietly swinging to her anchor a little above Gravesend. The time fixed for the departure was one o'clock, about two hours before high tide, in order that she might have the check of the stream against her in dropping down the river. Before that hour, however, she was warped out from the corner where she has so long been fitting, and brought to the entrance of the dock leading to the river. With a vessel of such enormous size and weight, and in a dock so crowded with shipping, to move her at all was a labour requiring no ordinary care and vigilance, and the work had to be accomplished very slowly. By eleven o'clock, however, she was brought quietly to the entrance, and before twelve Captain Arthur Cochrane, under whose command the Warrior has been placed, had all in readiness for going out into the stream at a moment's notice. Steam was got up in all the boilers, for, though professing to depend on the tugs for momentum and guidance, it was determined that in case of any mishap, such as a hawser breaking, the Warrior should be quite ready and able to take care of herself, if required. There was an almost total absence of curiosity to witness her departure from the docks; and, in fact, very few at all ventured to brave the gusts of wind and torrents of rain that swept across the river like banks of mist throughout all the early parts of the day. This lack of interest, however, was evidently due solely to the wretched weather. Precisely at half-past one, the tide in the river having risen to the level of the water in the docks, a regular team of steam-tugs made fast to the Warrior's stern, and the gates being opened, went blustering and splashing out into the Thames, towing the massive, black, and ominous-looking ship stern foremost after them. As she cleared the dock gates the ensigns and pennant were run up, the band of the Marines playing "Rule Britannia." No cheering was attempted, for there was plenty to be done at once, as the force of the tide and wind came full on her broadside and, in spite of all the sturdy efforts of the tugs, began to drift her up the stream. The tugs made a gallant struggle for it, but in vain, and if the Warrior herself had not been in working order with her engines, she might have gone much further up the river than would have been either safe or convenient. As it was, a very few turns of her gigantic screw, which seemed to stir up the very bottom of the Thames, soon checked her progress, and sent her into the middle of the river, facing fair down the stream. Once in this position, no further difficulty was experienced. In the very sharp turns just below Woolwich and just above Greenwich, it was of course necessary to use considerable care, and to screw astern till she was sometimes brought almost to a standstill. Beyond this, however, all went as well as could have been desired—she fouled nothing, never touched the ground, and was, as we have said, quietly at her moorings in less than a couple of hours after she had started. At all the bends of the river she answered her helm like a yacht. Admiral Keppel, Commodore Seymour, and Commodore Eden, who were on board, were delighted with the perfect ease with which she was at all times held in hand. The engines worked with an ease which, considering their immense size and newness, was almost marvellous. Not a single part required alteration, easing, or even adjustment of any kind whatever. The greatest pressure of steam in the boilers at any time was 21lb, but as a rule it was kept below this. The greatest number of revolutions obtained, or, more properly speaking, allowed, per minute was 58, and at this all worked as smoothly and quietly as when the screw was scarcely turning. This number of revolutions was required only once, and that merely for a minute or two, to turn the Warrior astern. At full speed at sea the engines will make 62 revolutions per minute, which will give her a speed of screw of 18 knots. Allowing as much as one-sixth of this for "slip" (in the case of the Warrior the slip is not expected to exceed one-eighth), we shall have a speed of 15 knots—a speed which no man-of-war in the world comes within a knot an hour of. As far as can be judged at present, there is every prospect of the Warrior making even more than this great velocity in her trial-rip next month. The highest speed attained was soon after passing Woolwich, when the tide was almost at its height, though, on the whole, slightly against the vessel. Going at rather less than 50 revolutions, she went at the rate of 14 knots. At no time, even when her rate was changed from slow ahead to full speed astern, was the vibration of the screw more than perceptible, practically speaking, either in the bows or on the quarter-deck. With a wooden vessel of the same length, and exerting the same power, the shake of the screw would have been excessive; but the iron frame and iron plates of the Warrior have made her as rigid as a bolt. In spite of the double row of furnaces, like a street of fire, the stokehole was remarkably cool; but the engine-room was much less so. A ventilating arrangement is about to be made which will remedy the heat of this latter portion of the ship entirely. All that now remains to be done to the Warrior is in the way of internal fittings, her rigging and hull being complete.

As compared with the French ships, the Warrior has this point of superiority, that she is not only iron-clad, but she is throughout constructed of iron, and there will be, therefore, no trouble about unseasoned or decaying timber in any part of her structure, the only timber employed being used as a bed for the outer or armour plates. The shell or framework of the Warrior is formed of wrought scrap iron. The keel, or portion to which the ribs are bolted, is formed of immense slabs of iron 3 ft. 6 in. deep, and 1½ in. thick; the ribs which spring from this are wrought in T shaped beams, made in joints of 5 ft. in length by 2 ft. in depth, and are placed 3 ft. 8 in. apart, except for a distance of 10 ft. on each side of the keel, where they are placed half this distance apart. The framework is formed of plates ½ in. in thickness, the plates at the bottom 1½ in. thick. Her length over all is 420 ft.; between perpendiculars she is 380 ft., extreme breadth 58 ft., and extreme depth 42 ft. Her tonnage is 6117 tons, and her engines, which are screw, are of 1250-horse power, and these, with the boilers and armaments, will give a total weight of over 10,000 tons. It is gratifying to note that we have at least one other advantage in the Warrior over *La Gloire*—that is, that she will carry her main deck guns nine feet out of water, while those of the French ship are but six feet. The main and upper decks are of wood covered with iron; the orlop-deck is of timber, and both are supported by rolled wrought-iron girders of great strength. Solid wrought-iron beams are placed transversely, at intervals of five feet, inside the ribs, and these again are strengthened by cross girders. The bows and stern are divided into twenty-seven water-tight compartments, and are shut from the engine-room and fighting parts of the ship by wrought-iron transverse bulkheads. So accurately does each plate fit into the other, that it is only by the closest inspection that one can trace the lines which mark where the plates join.

The Warrior is fitted with Messrs. John Penn and Son's patent trunk-engines, of 1250-horse power, having two cylinders of 112 in. diameter each, with 4 ft. length of stroke. About 130 ft. of wrought-iron shafting, of 17 in. diameter, intervene between the engines and the screw. The screw is made of gun-metal, and is capable of being

disconnected from the engine-shafting, and hoisted on deck while sailing or for repairs. The screw, with its hoisting-frame and apparatus, weighs about 35 tons.

There are ten boilers arranged side by side in about 80 ft. length of the ship, and having the stokehole between them; there are forty furnaces, each about 3 ft. wide and 7 ft. 6 in. long, and at full steaming will burn about 130 tons of coals in twenty-four hours. The boilers, which will contain 200 tons of water, are of the usual tubular construction, having about 4400 brass tubes for the smoke and heated air to pass through before it reaches the chimneys. There are two chimneys, each 7 ft. 6 in. diameter, and are made on the telescopic principle, so that they may be lowered to the level of the bulwarks when not in use or while sailing.

The Warrior's are the largest engines ever constructed for man-of-war or any other purpose. The whole quantity of fuel which can be stowed in the ship's bunkers is 900 tons, giving sufficient for seven days' full steaming. Working expansively with the valve shut off at half or quarter, there will, of course, be a corresponding diminution in the consumption of fuel, and the ship may be under steam for the whole of fourteen days, working, of course, at a reduced rate of speed.

The crew of the Warrior will consist of 660 men. Her armament will comprise thirty-four 68-pounders on the main-deck, and two Armstrong 100 pounder pivot-guns and four Armstrong 40-pounders on the upper-deck, and two Armstrong fieldpieces. In the fore and aft portions, which are not protected by the enormous plates, arrangements are made by which the contents of the cabins can be removed in a few minutes, and guns run out to the portholes to bear upon the enemy; but on coming to close quarters these ports would be shut, the iron doors of the armour-plated bulkhead closed, and the centre compartment would become one great impregnable battery.

After the ship has taken in her guns and stores she will go round to Portsmouth, and be thoroughly tested, not merely at the measured mile, but also, it is expected, in a trip across the Bay of Biscay—an ordeal which will sufficiently test her sailing and other seagoing qualities.

MORE IRON-CASED SHIPS.

Notices have been sent round from the Admiralty to the Thames Iron Works, Messrs. Samuda, Mr. Mare, Mr. Wigram, Mr. Laird, Messrs. Palmer, Mr. Napier, and Messrs. Westwood and Bailie, asking tenders for building three more iron frigates. These vessels are to be 20 ft. longer and 15½ in. broader than the Warrior class—viz., 400 ft. long by 59 ft. 3½ in. beam. Their depth is to be the same as the Warrior's; their tonnage 6020, with engines of 1250-horse power, nominal. They are to have a flatter floor though with the same draught of water, 25½ ft. Each is to be entirely coated from stem to stern with armour-plates of 5½ instead of 4½ in. thick. Behind this, as at present arranged, is to be a backing of nine inches of solid teak. The Admiralty, however, reserve to themselves the right of altering this portion of contract within the next three months, and either increasing the thickness of the iron to 6½ inches and doing away with the teak altogether, or leaving the proportions as we have mentioned. In fact, the Admiralty are waiting to see other results from experiments on Mr. Fairbairn's plan of iron only for ships' sides, and also to see how the target which is being built on the same plan as the Warrior's side will stand the pounding it will shortly receive at Shoeburyness. At all events, the armour of these new vessels, whether of wood and iron, or iron only, is to weigh 2100 tons—the armour alone of the Warrior being very little over 900 tons. The spar-deck is to be of half-inch iron, instead of, as with our present ships, only quarter inch; and all the lower decks are to be of wood, laid on iron beams, and strengthened across with diagonal stringers and braces of iron, in the usual manner. Tenders are required at the Admiralty from the firms we have mentioned for three such vessels to be begun at once, and tenders for three more will be asked for, it is said, in the course of another month or so.

THE LATE SESSION.—Lord Palmerston at the beginning of the Session promised no hling, and faithfully kept his promise. Parliament adhered to its plan of programme of talkative idleness with unswerving consistency, and rose on the 6th inst., after a Session hard to describe, except in negatives. It has not added a great law to the statute-book, or developed any project of thrift, or discussed any foreign policy, or devised any new aid to the progress of the mass of the people. It has not revealed any fresh statesman, or elicited any new idea, or added any strength to the Government, or infused any new energy into the suffrage.—*Spectator*.

BOOK-POST TO AND FROM FRANCE.—There was lately laid before Parliament a convention which has been entered into with France extending the privilege of the book-post between the two countries to patterns of no intrinsic value, photographs, commercial and legal documents, printed or engraved or lithographed works bearing quotations or manual notes, and "all other papers in manuscript;" but there must be nothing in the nature of a letter, or which could serve as such, and prepayment is to be essential. The day for carrying the convention into execution was left to the respective Post Offices.

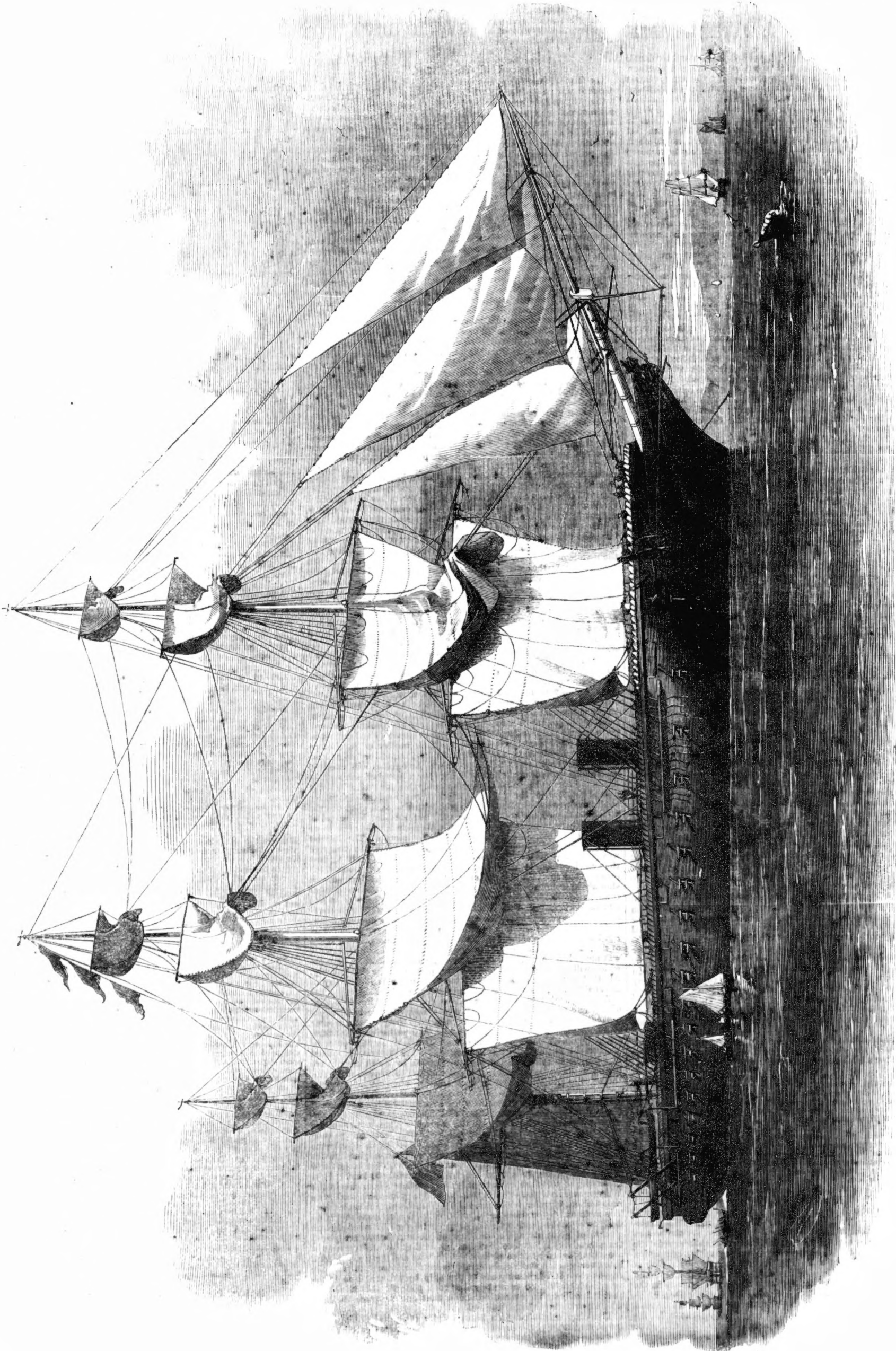
THE STEAM-SHIP SICILIA.—This fine new vessel, one of a line intended to run between England and Italy, and belonging to the London and Mediterranean Steam Navigation Company, made her trial trip in the Thames on Wednesday. The chairman, Lieutenant-Colonel Sykes, M.P., and a distinguished party of ladies and gentlemen were on board. The trial was in all respects satisfactory—the ship having more than fulfilled the expectations of her owners and builders.

THE FEMALE BLONDI.—The success which has attended the performance of Blondin has had its natural effect in producing rivals in his line of business. On Monday evening a female Blondin essayed the extraordinary exploit of crossing the Thames at Ormeau upon a tight rope; and had it not been for an accidental defect in the fixing of the rope the exploit would have been quite successful. The lady ascended from the Surrey side, and had achieved three-fourths of the distance across, when to the surprise of all, and no doubt to the horror of many among the thousands of spectators, she was observed to falter. The moment was one of painful suspense. She made her way backwards, however, and in a short time again essayed the ascent; again she stopped when a considerable way across, sat down, and made signs to the people below, as if to cast up a rope to her. Ultimately, she let herself down to the surface of the river, and was taken up in a boat. The attempt of the female Blondin has, therefore, not been successful; but it is right to say that she blames, with apparent reason, the absence of guide-ropes to steady the main cord, as the cause of her failure. These guide-ropes have huge lumps of lead attached to them; and it is understood that Mr. E. T. Smith, who is the entrepreneur of this questionable public show, avers that the ropes were cut away by some atrocious thieves for the sake of the plunder. The courage displayed by the lady under the above trying circumstances created almost a greater amount of admiration than would have been produced had the artist walked all the way from Battersea to Ormeau. The interest exhibited in this performance was immense. Both sides of the river were densely thronged, and though the performance was over at half-past seven, the roads leading to Ormeau were scarcely passable at nine o'clock on account of the returning crowds.

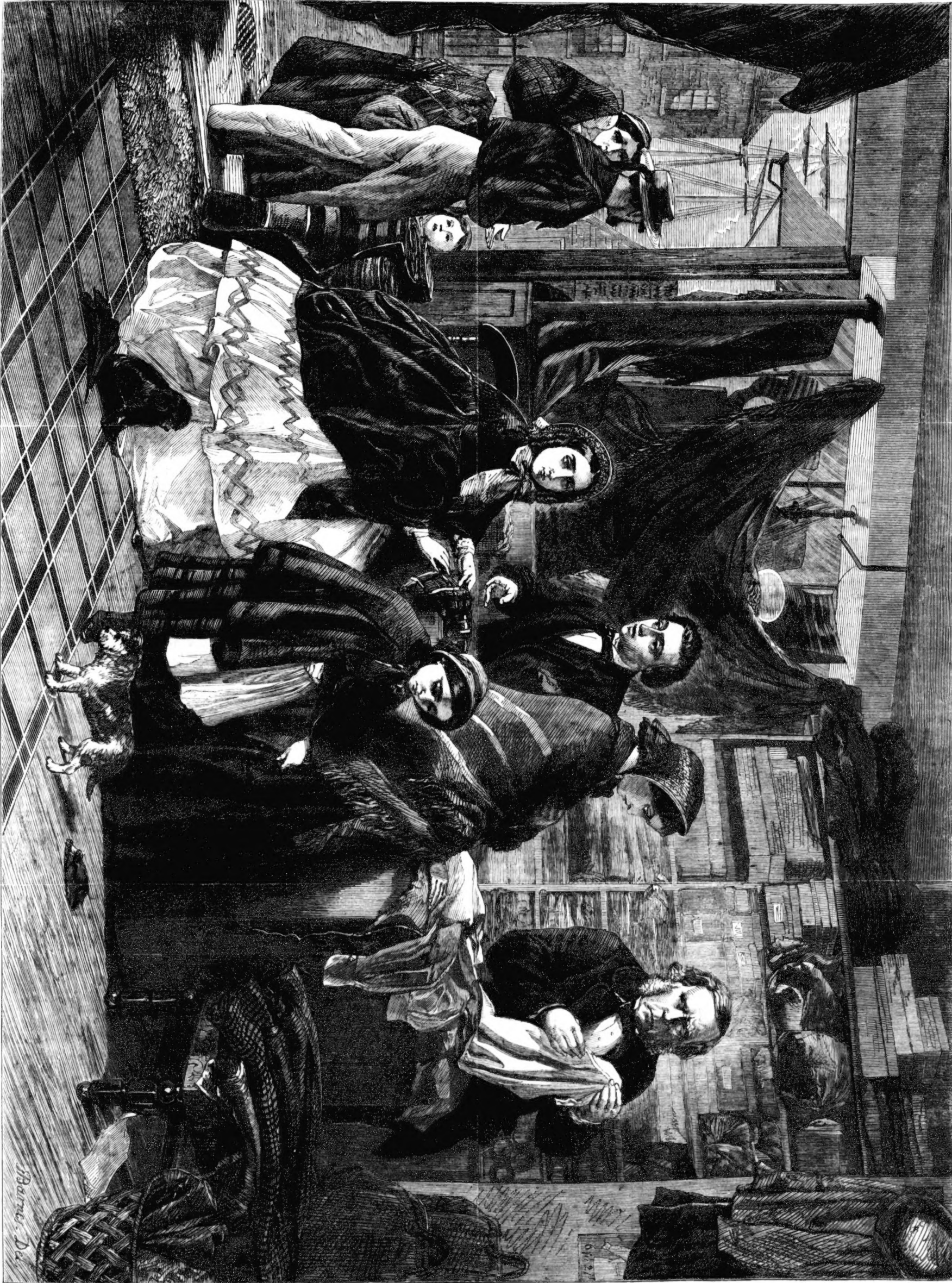
TWO GALLANT BOYS.—At a recent sitting of the board of guardians of St. Pancras application was made on behalf of two poor boys named William Hill, of 3, York-place, Ossulston-street, Somers-town, and John Jenkins, of 60, Wilstead street, for some reward for having, at the risk of their own lives, jumped into the Regent's Canal and saved two little girls, sisters, the one six and the other eight years of age, who had fallen in and were drowning. The children had fallen in while at play. The case was fully verified, and the chairman expressed his regret that the board had no funds for such a purpose. A few shillings were, however, subscribed, and they were recommended to apply to the Royal Humane Society.

THE AMERICAN BLOCKADE.—We are authorised to state that there is no foundation for a statement which has been circulated to the effect that Admiral Milne had reported the blockade of the Southern ports to be ineffective. No general report on the subject has been officially received.—*Globe*.

THE GALWAY PACKET COMPANY.—The Atlantic Royal Mail Steam-packet Company held a meeting in the City on Wednesday, to raise more capital. The Chairman, speaking for the directors and a special committee, said it was plain that the words of Lord Palmerston on the last day of the session, although apparently couched with caution, intimated an intention to restore the subsidy to the company if they should provide the vessels necessary for the service. The meeting concluded in this view, and it was resolved to raise the capital of the company from half a million to £1,100,000.



THE NEW IRON-CLAD STEAM-FRIGATE WARRIOR.



"ATTENTIVE PRICES."—(FROM A PICTURE BY E. HITCHES, IN THE RECENT ROYAL ACADEMY EXHIBITION.)

Barne. De.

"RUINOUS PRICES."

AGAIN and again, we say, commend us to a picture which tells a simple story, appealing to common hopes, loves, regrets, sorrows. Let art ever seek the "one touch of nature" which "makes the whole world kin."

In the picture called "Ruinous Prices" the story is a melancholy one enough—one which, although it has been sung by Hood in a never-dying song, preached about by divines, exposed by philanthropists, cynics, satirists, and even "swells," yet remains the reproach and shame of England.

To find for women work which shall enable them to keep from starving, and yet preserve their fair fame, is a social problem that has been long in solving; and no power has yet been found strong enough to reach the evil which condemns the sempstress to a life which is a martyrdom of poverty and temptation.

When to this is added the coarse bullying of the huckster who pays the miserable pittance which only revives, without satisfying hunger, the sickening fear of having even that taken away, who can wonder at the dark and terrible mysteries of the bridges and the streets? The picture tells its own story, a sad and painful one, which may be profitably pondered by those who exhaust ingenuity and diminish comfort by the study of what they shall wear. At all events, let such of our readers as shall take this subject to heart even for a moment avoid the "cheap bargains" and "ruinous prices" which are so often dearly purchased before Heaven by the flesh and blood—nay, perhaps at last, by the soul's peace—of their unfortunate sisters.

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ILLUSTRATED TIMES.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 17, 1861.

LORD BROUGHAM AND SOCIAL SCIENCE.

HENRY LORD BROUGHAM, at an age when ordinary minds sink into mere senility, remains the delight and the instructor of his time. Beyond the result of his sheer hard work—and he is one of the most indomitable workers of the day—he confers a moral benefit upon the humanity of his fellow-countrymen by teaching them that active labour may even tend to conserve life and faculties and to render age less terrible by the preservation of the powers. We have all known poor weaklings in literature and in the learned professions moan about overwrought brains, and hasten, from the very fact of their own nervous timidity, the direful effect which they have dreaded. But here is a man who has worked as hard as almost any two of those men whom the world calls industrious. His writing has been encyclopaedic, his oratory the pride of an age when oratory was valued as an accomplishment and called for as a necessity. He has struggled in stormy times of politics, too; has bravely and successfully defended a bad cause against a worse King, and has assisted in the prime reforms of our legislation for nearly half a century. He has passed through obloquy and reviling from miserable satirists whom a breath of his might have shrivelled like a hot blast from a furnace; but he has bravely lived their slanders down until his enemies kneel and pour out acclamations at his feet. He has fought his way upwards, from a struggling barrister to the highest position in the realm attainable by any subject; he has earned his rest, yet still he labours on, not for his own advancement, but for the benefit of his contemporaries and his nation. He has chosen for his motto the well-known aphorism that Fate and Fortune may now sport with others as heretofore with him. Yet periodically the attention of the United Kingdom is centred upon some new act or some new striking speech of this most extraordinary of living Englishmen.

The last speech of Lord Brougham will be found briefly summarised in another column. It is one of those masterly performances which, if published originally in a literary form, would have awakened attention no less as a matter of learning and research than as a clear, intelligible view of social progress during the last year. It touches upon all the principal topics of the day. We are warned that all progress, scientific and otherwise, is necessarily gradual; and we are reminded that even the most glorious discoveries have been led up to step by step by the earnest labour of studious men, whose very names have in many cases been only rescued from oblivion by the learned. Thence we are reminded of recent legal improvements, of the gradual widening of the ports for the admission of evidence, and of its gratifying result in favour of public justice. We are taught that improvement in any one social aspect has not a limited effect upon that aspect alone, but that it confers a universal benefit "by begetting a zeal for advancement in other directions." It is gratifying to find so earnest and constant a reformer as Henry Brougham acknowledging that the amendment and consolidation of the criminal law and of the law of bankruptcy, effected only during the last Session, has been beyond his most sanguine expectations. The repeal of the paper duty, as might have been expected, elicits his warm approval. Our cheap literature, our penny—nay, even our halfpenny—press, falls in for its share of deserved commendation. It is the etiquette among high-priced papers utterly to ignore any publication issued at a price representable only in copper. But Lord Brougham reviews these skirmishers and outposts of the literary forces, and commends them, as a good general should when he finds them in their places and performing their duty.

He adds his testimony to the benefits of the Irish convict system, with which, perhaps, many of our readers have formed some acquaintance through the medium of an article in the last

number of the *Cornhill*. He points out that the institution of co-operative societies may tend to the abolition of strikes, "so pernicious to the working classes and so dangerous to the peace of the community."

But, above all, this great man's observations are to be remarked upon the subject of intemperance. He shows clearly that crime and vice depend upon intemperance for their increase and their dissemination. "Source of disease!" he exclaims, in one of those magnificent periods which remind us of the golden age of English classic oratory; "Source of disease, of poverty, of crime! how long shall that heavy curse be suffered to afflict us? How long shall we submit to a conqueror more cruel than the armed invader—to a tyrant the most inexorable of all which has subdued rational men and avenged the world of the unreasoning creature for the wrongs received at his hands?"

Such testimony and such an appeal comes with double force from a man like Brougham. It is temperance, abstinence, and labour which have made him the man he has been, is, and, let us hope, may be for many years to come. With intemperance labour is simply impossible. With intemperance, you may lay the weariness of your sluggish brain, of your nerveless hand, of your dull, unobservant eye, of your unready tongue, on mere physical debility if you will; but the fact is the same. You cannot be a great man and a sot together, at all events unless you be an intellectual giant; and even then you will die early or live a drivelling idiot. But with temperance, and the assiduity which follows it as commonly as depression follows drunkenness, the humblest man in England may become the ornament and pride of his generation.

THE SOCIAL SCIENCE CONGRESS AT DUBLIN.

The fifth Congress of the Social Science Association met at Dublin on Wednesday. There were present a great many distinguished persons, including Lord Brougham, the Duke of Wellington, and others. In the evening Lord Brougham, as president, delivered his inaugural address, which was of great length, and referred to a vast variety of topics. Want of space prevents our giving it in detail: we must content ourselves with a brief summary. His Lordship began by noticing the associations and recollections called up by the place in which they were met, and then proceeded to review the progress the objects the association aimed at promoting had made during the past year; vindicated the congress from the charge that none of its labours had produced much practical fruit; and, in enumerating the steps of advancement the world had made, pointed out the part the association had taken in the discussion of, and the influence their exertions had exercised upon, the various measures of amelioration which had become part and parcel of our social life. He then referred to law reform, and adduced the changes in the law of evidence, the Charitable Trusts Act, the Bankruptcy Act, the digest of criminal law, the alteration of the law of settlement, and the simplifying of the phraseology of legal enactments, as proofs of the improvements we have made in this respect. He next adverted to the improvements in the management of property which had obtained of late years, and the liberalising of sentiment and action in our commercial legislation, and paid a high tribute to the advocates of free trade and unrestricted intercourse among nations. His Lordship then turned to the subject of education, and the influence which the repeal of the paper duty would have in promoting it, both in cheapening the price of books and also as bringing good newspapers and periodicals within the reach of even the poorest. He also paid a compliment to Mr. Edwin Chadwick for his exertions in improving the character of the teachers, and elevating the tone of the instruction given in our public schools, especially calling attention to that gentleman's recent report on the subject, which would shortly be published by order of Parliament. He likewise noticed with approbation the more liberal tone which pervaded the discussions on the subject of education, especially in Scotland, where clergymen of all denominations had of late been induced—mainly by the efforts of the congress—to meet together and interchange their sentiments. After adverting to the sanitary improvements which had recently been introduced, and to the labours of the congress in connection therewith, his Lordship dilated at some length on the advantages of the reformatory treatment of criminals, especially as worked out in Ireland. The Irish system, he conceived, was much superior to that of England, as being more perfect in its operations and productive of more permanent effects. The next topic to which the noble Lord referred was that of co-operation among the labouring classes, and the economical, social, and intellectual effects which were being produced by the combined efforts of working men to benefit themselves by the management of businesses in which they had an interest as proprietors. He next dwelt on the great question of temperance, congratulating the congress on the progress already made in reclaiming people from the vice of drunkenness, and urging all well-wishers of their kind to renewed and increased exertions to crush this hideous demon of demoralisation. In connection with the subject of the employment of women, and the raising of them in the social scale, he paid a merited compliment to the late Lord Herbert; and then went on to recommend the encouragement of book unions, the early-closing movement, the establishment of lectures, reading rooms, and other means of promoting rational amusement and intellectual culture; and concluded his address by a reference to the number of distinguished foreigners who were members of the association, and to the progress similar institutions were making abroad, and congratulated the association on the improvement in the condition of men generally, the greater amount of freedom they almost everywhere enjoyed, and the development of rational freedom under wise institutions exhibited in Italy and elsewhere.

On the conclusion of his address the noble Lord was loudly and repeatedly cheered. The congress next day proceeded to the constitution of the various sections, and to the consideration of the topics to be brought under their notice respectively.

THE DRAWBACK ON PAPER.—The Chancellor of the Exchequer has given directions and made the necessary arrangements with the Commissioners of the Board of Inland Revenue for the allowance of the grant or drawback on the stock of paper in hand to stationers, pasteboard-makers, paper-stainers, and other dealers holding above one ton on the 1st of October next, the day on which the paper duty expires.

HIS MAJESTY THE KING OF SWEDEN has been at Osborne on a visit to her Majesty. The Queen and the Prince Consort, on board the *Victoria* and *Albert*, with the *Emerald*, 51, screw, Captain A. Cumming, in attendance, steamed out to meet and welcome the King on his arrival. His Swedish Majesty has since visited Portsmouth Dockyard and the camp at Aldershot, in company with the Prince Consort, the Crown Prince of Prussia, Lord Palmerston and Russell, and other notabilities. A grand review took place at Aldershot on Wednesday in honour of the Royal visitors.

THE FORESTERS.—There was a grand council of the Ancient Order of Foresters held in Deacon Hall, Islington, last week. Mr. Benjamin Foster presiding, when several amendments were made upon the regulations, reports received from the various lodges, and the state and progress of the order ascertained. There are now over 200,000 Foresters in the kingdom. The funds of the lodges are generally in a flourishing condition, and great benefits have been conferred upon the members by the operations of this useful institution.

SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

THE MARQUIS OF TULLIBARDINE, eldest son of the Duke and Duchess of Athole, attained his majority last week. The event was celebrated at Dunkeld with much rejoicing.

HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF has ordered that in future the "Royal salute" is to consist of the first six bars of "God Save the Queen" played twice over for her Majesty, but once only for any other member of the Royal family.

HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE DUKE OF OPORTO arrived at Osborne on Wednesday on a visit to her Majesty.

LORD PALMERSTON'S INAUGURATION AS LORD WARDEN OF THE CINQUE PORTS is fixed for the 28th inst.—the ceremony to take place at Dover.

ON TUESDAY EVENING Mr. Moffatt, M.P. for Honiton, addressed his constituents in the Assembly Rooms at the Dolphin Hotel, and explained his votes in the late Session. A vote of confidence in the hon. member was passed unanimously.

A MAN NAMED PARSONS was last week poisoned by foul air while engaged in repairing a sewer in Southwark-bridge-road. He is not expected to recover.

FROM returns published by the official *Gazette* of Turin it appears that 64,864 francs have already been contributed to the Cavour memorial fund.

THE AMOUNT OF PETER'S PENCE raised in the archdiocese of Munich in the course of the present year is 28,336 florins.

MR. HARVEY LAWIS, M.P. for Marylebone, last week met the members of the representative council, and, on behalf of himself and his colleagues, Lord Fernoy, made a statement as to their conduct in Parliament. A vote of confidence in the representatives of the borough was passed unanimously.

THOMAS SMITH, a labourer at the London Docks, last week breached a cask of brandy in a cellar where he was at work, and drank to such excess as to cause death from congestion of the brain.

NEARLY £4000 have been subscribed towards a testimonial in recognition of the eminent public services and great personal worth of General Sir James Outram. The lists will shortly be closed and the form of the memorial decided upon.

THE REV. S. BOWDEN, Incumbent of St. James's Church, Hebbden Bridge, Yorkshire, was drowned last week by falling into a canal within a short distance of his own residence. The rev. gentleman was returning from a visit, the night was dark and tempestuous, and it is supposed he stumbled in crossing the canal bridge, upon which some alterations were being made, and fell into the water. He was only forty-six years of age, was much esteemed as a clergyman, and well known as an ardent student of geology and other sciences.

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE KING OF ITALY have resolved to hold an Exhibition of Art and Industry at Florence in the ensuing months of September and October, when Italy will see for the first time the works of her artists and the products of her industry collected together under the roof of a Crystal Palace.

MR. A. A. CASAMAJOR, who has been the holder for six years of the silver challenge sculls, the symbol of amateur championship on the Thames, died last week; and the contest for the possession of the trophy has in consequence been postponed to the 24th inst.

CHARITY HOSKIN, convicted of the wilful murder of her infant child at Truro, at the late Cornwall Assizes, will not be executed, the governor of the county goal having received a respite of the sentence. She will be confined during her Majesty's pleasure.

HILTON, who, at the recent Cambridge Assizes, pleaded guilty of the murder of his wife at Parson Grove, near Wisbeach, was executed on Saturday week at the Cambridge county goal.

A MAN NAMED BETTS attempted to murder his father at Great Grimby last week, while labouring under religious excitement, which seems to have produced temporary insanity.

A LARGE PICTURE BY HONTHORST, which hung upon the exit-staircase at Hampton Court, has just been cleaned and restored. The picture is interesting as containing portraits of Charles I. and his family, Buckingham the favourite, and many others.

CATHERINE BENNELL, a lady of good family and independent means, and of very genteel appearance, was convicted at Southampton the other day for smuggling a quantity of tobacco and cigars. She was fined £5 11s. 6d. and the costs of the proceedings.

THE FRENCH PAPERS speak of a very scandalous row as having lately occurred at Beyrout. According to their statement, six officers of the English ship *Renaw* (they mean, probably, the *Renown*), being very drunk, assaulted a coffee-housekeeper named Trouget, and did damage in his house to the extent of 2000*l*. The officers are under arrest, and the English Admiral has ordered an inquiry.

SEVEN HUNDRED MEN, of whom twenty-four are divers, are now daily at work at Alderney. Above 500 feet of the west breakwater will be brought above high water this summer. The end of this breakwater will be nearly a mile from the shore. It has been decided to erect another breakwater, 1000 feet in length, to shelter the anchorage from easterly winds.

A LARGE AND COMMODIOUS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, dedicated to St. Andrew, erected on land given by the War Department, and towards which Government granted a considerable sum, has been built at Chatham for the accommodation of the Royal Marines belonging to the Church of Scotland, the condition of the grant by Government being that space shall be allotted in the church for 200 men from the garrison on each Sunday. The church was opened for public worship on Sunday last.

THE NEWS brought by the steamer *Ethiopia*, which arrived on Saturday, shows that the slave trade on the west coast of Africa, so far from decreasing, is rapidly reviving, and that the illegal traffic is carried on chiefly under the American flag.

ACCORDING TO CALCULATIONS made at the General Post Office, it is estimated that, when the Post Office savings banks shall be in full operation, the cost for management on 100,000 transactions—that is, deposits and withdrawals—will be £2915, or nearly 7*d*. (6-994*d*) for every deposit and every withdrawal.

A HUGE BLOCK OF STONE, 26 ft. long, 9 ft. wide, and 6 in. thick, was a few days back extracted from the quarries of Helsenhof, in Prussia, and dispatched to Brussels. It weighs 303,500 lb., and was drawn by eighteen horses. The man charged with the conveyance was obliged to give security to repair any damage which might be occasioned to bridges by the excessive weight of the stone.

THE ANNUAL ACCOUNT ISSUED BY THE WAR OFFICE shows that the number of depositors in the Army savings banks was 13,916 on March 31, 1860—an increase of no less than 3773 over the previous year. The deposits received during the year amounted to £163,492, and the withdrawals to £116,394.

THE 20,119 BRITISH VESSELS, exclusive of river steamers, employed in our home and foreign trade in the year 1860 (tonnage 4,251,739), not including repeated voyages, were manned by 191,888 persons. The masters were 20,296 in number; the mates, 21,069; petty officers, 13,264; A. B. seamen, 62,787; O. S. seamen, 17,614; apprentices and boys, 23,041.

THE OUTSIDE SPEECHES natural to the recess have commenced, Mr. Osborne, at Liskeard, being first in the field. His speech was only important as heralding that clamour for retrenchment which is certain to commence before long, and which will probably carry Mr. Gladstone up to supreme power.—*Spectator*.

THE REV. FATHER VENTURA died a few days ago at Versailles.

MME. GODSCHMIDT will, it is said, resume her professional engagements next season.

THE ADVICES FROM MELBOURNE mention that 89,645 oz. of gold, worth £358,500, had been shipped during the month. Assuming that this is all for England, the total on the way hither, including £154,000 by the *Su-ax* and *Marco Polo*, which are still at sea, is £512,500.

THE REV. NICHOLAS WY. GIBSON, M.A., Rector of St. Thomas's, Ardwick, has been chosen to fill the canonry of Manchester vacant by the decease of the Rev. Robert C. Clifton, M.A.; the election having been made at a meeting of the chapter held at the cathedral on Saturday, the Very Rev. the Dean presiding, and Canons Wray, Richson, and Marsden being present.

ON MONDAY the thermometer registered in the streets of London 110 deg. Fahr. in the sun, or 35 Reaumur, or from 95 to 97 deg. Fahr. in the shade, a heat almost unprecedented in this country; whilst at the Royal Humane Society's receiving-house, Hyde Park, and other similarly-exposed situations, the instrument at noonday recorded 119 deg. Fahr.

A DUEL was lately fought with pistols at Milan, but the parties were unable to wound each other at the respective distances of twenty-five, twenty, and fifteen paces. They managed, however, to shoot a poor coachman who was waiting to take away the wounded party.

IT IS STATED that recently one firm in Sheffield manufactured in the space of three months no less than 280 tons of crinoline steel.

M. AUBER, the composer, has been promoted by the Emperor of the French to the rank of Grand Officer in the Order of the Legion of Honour.

A PAINFUL SENSATION has been caused at Stralsund by the death of two danseuses. While performing in a pas de deux the dress of Mlle. Schelles took fire, and her partner, Mlle. Forsli, rushing to her assistance, her dress also caught, and the injuries inflicted on both were so severe as to result in death in each instance.

THE LOUNGER AT THE CLUBS.

I HAVE looked over all our daily and many of our weekly papers to find an able, calm, fair, judicial estimate of the Session of Parliament just closed, but have found none. The *Times* summary was elaborate, as it always is; but I cannot think that it was fair. The *Saturday Review* estimate was, *suo more*, cynical, finding fault with everybody and everything; and the press generally has decided that the Session has again been fruitless—that there was much talk and little work—and that when history shall proceed to record the doings of Parliament in 1861 this will be her verdict:—"Parliament met in the first week in February, broke up in the first week of August, and did little or nothing." Well, on this subject allow me to say a word or two. I cannot give a summary, as you have not space for that, but I may say a few words—Parliament sat altogether 130 days, or thereabouts, and it passed 134 public bills—i.e., about one law on the average for every day. Now, I venture to think that this alone is work enough to redeem the Session from the charge of being fruitless; for be it remembered that, with the exception of a dozen or so of continuance bills, all these measures were more or less of public interest; some of great importance. All had to pass through their several stages and formalities, and all at every stage were open to discussion. Amongst the important bills I may notice the Bankruptcy Bill, the Irremovable Poor Bill (which is a step in the right direction towards uniform rating to the poor and the liberation of the labourer from the shackles imposed by the law of settlement), Mr. Milner Gibson's Harbours Bill (which I am told is a very important measure), the Salmon Fisheries Bill, the Government of the Navy Bill, and last, though not least, the Repeal of the Paper Duty Bill—a measure which I am persuaded history will deem of sufficient magnitude alone to redeem the Session from insignificance. My own opinion is that the repeal of the tax on paper will, before this generation shall pass away, turn out to be one of the grandest measures that have been passed during this century. We must not, however, be in a hurry to see its results. Mustard and cress may be sown upon a wet rag at night, and gathered for breakfast in the morning; but the oak and all other trees that are of permanent value take years to reach maturity. And so it is with some of our laws, and especially, I think, with this. We shall not see its fruits for many days—perhaps years; and it may be that, when they come, their growth will have been so silent and unobserved—they will have so penetrated all society—that we shall hardly be able to recognise them as the results of this great measure, and much less be able to trace them to their source.

But to return to our subject. Not only has Parliament passed 134 Acts, but it has voted some 70 millions of money, decided how the money shall be raised, and discussed a thousand topics of more or less importance which have incidentally or in formal manner been brought before it. But it is said that it has spent its time in talking, and not in working. Now, what is the meaning of this charge? To my mind its work is talking. It is its duty to debate these bills, money votes, and topics; and how it can debate without talking is quite beyond my conception. The simple fact is Parliament is a talking assembly. It meets for the special purpose of talking, and for no other purpose. "But it talks too much, and sometimes very foolishly." Granted; but this vice is not peculiar to the British Parliament; and, when we consider that there are 654 members of the House of Commons—not to say anything of the Lords—that every member has a tongue in his head, and has also a right to talk upon every motion made, perhaps we shall cease to wonder that we have so much talk. I have said that this vice of talking too much is not peculiar to the English Parliament. Nor is it. In every assembly, whether municipal, parochial, or other, the same vice prevails; and it is too much to expect that Parliament shall be free from this common disease. But there is compensation here, as Emerson shows us there is for every evil in the world. There is much foolish talk in Parliament, no doubt; but, then, it must be remembered that there is not a little wise talk; and, further, that the wise talk is generally evoked by the foolish. Thus, for example, if Darby Griffith mauls away for an hour upon foreign politics, and bores and distresses the House, it is not thrown away, this foolish talk of his; for when he sits down up gets Lord Palmerston to answer him, and then we get a sort of State proclamation which we would not have been without for the world; and, again, if Bentinck and Newdegate and Du Cane occupy some two or three hours in uttering their stale platitudes, is it not worth all the time to have Gladstone, Gibson, Bright, and Cobden's essays upon free trade which are sure to follow, and which we should not have had but for the dull, stale, flat, and wearisome harangues which preceded them? Indeed, I have long since come to the conclusion that, painful and at times almost unbearable as it is to have to listen to the longwinded harangues of the talking bores of the House, in the end we get far more good than evil out of them. Nor is the good confined to the House; for, by our modern system of reporting the debates, no sooner is a speech uttered than it is sent flying away on a million wings to every town and village in the kingdom. Indeed, I believe that four-fifths of the political education which the people have received they have got from the Parliamentary debates. It is true they get a deal of nonsense, but they have a way of their own of selecting the wheat and blowing away the chaff; and here let me say it is a mistake to think that the House of Commons ought to be a mere legislative chamber. Originally it did not legislate at all, and now it has other duties quite as important as legislation. It is not only its privilege but its duty to discuss all subjects of Imperial interest, and I for one hope that it will never suffer itself to be badgered out of this right.

And now I am on this subject I may be allowed to say that neither is the House of Commons deteriorated, as some writers would have us imagine. Half a century back there were some bright and particular stars in the House, the equal of which we, perhaps, have not now; but in general culture, behaviour, and independence, I am persuaded that the House of Commons fifty years ago was far inferior to ours, whilst the personalities, gross and abusive language, and fierce altercations, sometimes even with the Speaker himself, which were common then, are impossible now. For example, Edward Burke drew a portrait of North thus:—"He extends his right leg a full yard before his left, rolling his flaming eyes, and moving backwards and forwards his ponderous frame." Again, Colonel Barré denounced the conduct of Lord North as "most indecent and scandalous;" and Lord North, complaining of this language, described it as "extremely uncivil, brutal, and insolent." So much for behaviour. As to culture, it must be remembered that, whilst there were a few able leaders half a century ago in the House, the country gentlemen, who formed the rank and file, were grossly ignorant, and they were as slavishly dependent as they were ignorant. But on this subject, if any one doubt, let him read an admirable book which made its appearance about two months ago, to wit, "The Constitutional History of England from 1760 to 1860," vol. i., by Erskine May, the Clerk Assistant of the House of Commons, and he will doubt no more.

Since Parliament broke up I have travelled north and south, and have to report that the harvestmen are everywhere at work; that the crops are good, though hardly up to the average, and that there is every probability that they will be stacked in capital condition.

In the neighbourhood of Dover the volunteers are all on the *pièce*, for Lord Palmerston is to be inaugurated as Lord Warden as soon as he can be spared from Osborne House, where he is at present with his Majesty of Sweden; and then there is to be a grand gathering of volunteers to do his Lordship honour. There is, however, this drawback—it is harvest-time, and in such weather as this the time of some of the volunteers is far too valuable to allow them to play at soldiering. Still, there will be a large number from towns, and, the Fates permitting, I will be there to see the show.

NEW STEAM LINE TO INDIA.

THE recently-inaugurated monthly line of auxiliary steamers trading between the metropolitan port and the East Indies continues to work with a satisfaction that fully justifies belief in the permanent establishment of the undertaking. Our Engraving depicts the type of this splendid mercantile fleet, the third vessel of which—the *Lady Jocelyn*, of 2242 tons, Commander Robert W. Ker—was dispatched from Gravesend on Wednesday week by the East India and London Shipping Company. The *Lady Jocelyn* has been preceded by the *Indiana* and the *Hydaspes*, both of which vessels conveyed out numerous employees attached to the Indian Civil Service and their families, to whom this line presents considerable advantages, both as regards economy and the avoidance of that fatigue inseparable from the overland route. In addition the *Hydaspes* took out 340 men and officers of the Royal Artillery on service, thus showing that, in sending out troops by this line to our Indian empire, the Government has wisely recognised those advantages which, in a national point of view, must result from the permanent establishment of regular monthly communication with the East, and to which the principal banking, mercantile, and manufacturing firms interested in Indian commerce and intercourse fully bore testimony at the outset of the enterprise. As it would be absurd to doubt that the ocean is the natural and proper highway of communication with India, and be equally untrue to regard the overland route as a courtesy of which political intrigue might most unexpectedly deprive us, so it is satisfactory to witness the establishment of a large fleet of powerful vessels which afford an expeditious, economical, and regular means of transport to our Eastern empire.

ODD FELLOWS' FETE AT THE CRYSTAL PALACE.

ON Tuesday, the 6th day of this present month of August, the Odd Fellows and their friends, to the number of nearly 25,000, met at the Crystal Palace, and then and there proceeded to enjoy themselves after their own fashion. From an early hour in the morning excursion-trains poured their living freights into the metropolis from all parts of the country, and the London-bridge and Victoria stations were presently besieged by impatient crowds; but so complete were the arrangements that by noon about 20,000 persons had found their way into the beautiful park and grounds of the Sydenham Palace. A large number of excursionists came by the road in vans, omnibuses, and carriages; and not a few from Woolwich, Greenwich, and other adjacent places made the journey on foot. In fact, the neighbourhood of the palace was in a state of commotion not often witnessed, for the visitors brought music and flags with them, and the whole place wore quite a holiday air.

Special attractions were provided for the day. There was music, good and abundant, both within and without the building; there was a grand balloon ascent by the veteran Coxwell, and a display of all the great fountains and "the whole system of waterworks;" there were cricket matches and archery, and rifle practice, and boating, and athletic sports for the adults; and swings and roundabouts, and "invigorators," and various other amusements for the youngsters; but, beyond all this, there was the vast procession of members of the society depicted by our artist. A procession is more difficult to describe by pen than with pencil. We must, therefore, content ourselves by saying that it consisted of about 3000 members of the society, wearing scarves and rosettes and bearing "regalia," and accompanied by several military bands playing various lively airs and marches—prominent among which was the fine band of the London Irish Volunteers. Under the term "regalia" is included a large number of banners appropriately painted with designs emblematic of the objects of the society. One, for instance, consisting of a large picture on which is the British lion supporting the arms of the order, symbolic of the protection afforded by the State; under the all-seeing eye, Britannia, impersonated by our beloved Queen, explains to the representatives of the four quarters of the globe the advantages of odd-fellowship. With her sceptre she points to the dove and olive-branch that surmount the arms, which bear the well-known symbols—the horn of plenty, the hour-glass, the beehive, and the cross keys. Figures of Faith with the cross, Hope with the anchor, and Charity with the crest of the order, the heart and hand; while beneath are Friendship, Love, and Truth represented by semi-nude figures of children, with the leopard and lamb, the dove and looking-glass &c. Some banners bear mottoes, such as "Assist the Orphan," "Support the Widow," "Succour the Helpless," "Providence," "Temperance," and so forth. Other members follow who carry small flags and wands, and sceptres or staves, surmounted by designs of crowns, doves, anchors, crosspins, hearts and hands, beehives, and other insignia of office, in silver and less precious metals. The procession consisted of five divisions, each accompanied by a band, and in which walked the Grand Master of the order (Mr. John Gale), several members of the board or directors, the Grand Masters, Deputy Grand Masters, and Corresponding Secretaries of the several districts into which the metropolis is divided, and a large number of the more prominent and well-known members of the order. First came the band of the London Irish Volunteers, followed by the members of the North London district, with Messrs. John Harris, G.M.; John Diprose, D.G.M.; James Roe, C.S.; and Past Masters Stocker, Leftly, and Past Grand Woods, Stephens, &c.; with Past Provincial Grand Master Holmes, of Aberystwith; followed by members, four abreast, carrying flags and banners and other symbolic designs. Next followed the past and present officers and brethren of the northern and midland districts, with Past Grand Master Buck, the U.S. of Birmingham, carrying the beautiful regalia belonging to Runcorn, near Liverpool, headed by Eaton's excellent brass band. Afterwards came the past and present officers and members of the Pinlico, Mitcham, and adjoining districts, with the officers and members of the south and south-eastern districts, bearing the Mitcham and Hastings regalia, headed by the Mitcham Odd Fellows' band. Messrs. Stiff, Newman, Goodchild, and Barnes, with other well known members of the districts, walked in this division. The officers and brethren of the Stepney, South London, and South-Western districts, with the Liverpool regalia, brought up the procession, which was attended throughout by large numbers of persons of both sexes, all, apparently, greatly interested in the spectacle. Among those who walked in the Stepney and South London division were Corresponding Secretary Burgess, one of the board of directors; P.P.G.M. Walter Fisher, W.C. Day, Past Grand Burton, D.P.G.M. Bruty, C.S. Love, and Treasurer Pallett. After parading the principal walks, the members paused in the wide space in front of the grand terrace, where the bands united and played "God Save the Queen;" after which, with three cheers for the Manchester Unity, lustily given from ten thousand throats, the procession resolved itself into its separate elements, and each individual item sought amusement and refreshment as he best could; and in the matter of refreshment there was nothing to complain of, for Mr. Strange provided dinners, lunches, and teas, with all the et ceteras, at a cheap rate, on a most liberal scale. And so, till the dusk of evening set in, dancing and the delightful amusement known as "kiss-in-the-ring" kept the company in good humour, and the day ended as pleasantly as it had begun.

But now, perhaps, our readers will like to know something about Odd Fellows and the Manchester Unity; let us endeavour, very briefly, to inform them. The proper name of this society is the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Manchester Unity, Friendly Society, though parts of this title are only in common use. It consists of about 320,000 members, distributed all over the world of whom about 20,000 are located in the metropolis. The objects of the society, which is the most extensive of the kind in the world, are the raising of funds, by means of subscriptions, donations, fines, &c., for the relief of its members during sickness, or while travelling in search of employment, medical attendance, superannuation in old age, and the pay-

ment of certain small sums on the death of a member or his wife—generally £10 or £12 on the decease of the former, and £5 or £6 on that of the latter. To ensure these benefits, weekly or other payments are made by the members, in proportion to the age at which they enter. For instance, at a lodge recently started members entering at twenty years of age pay an initiation fee of 6s., and an annual contribution of £1 14s. 8d., in order to ensure £12 at death, £6 at wife's death, 12s. a week in sickness, free medical attendance, travelling relief, distress gifts, and various smaller benefits, as well as an annuity of 8s. a month to a widow, and 1s. a month to each orphan under fourteen. It must be understood that the widow and orphan fund is not universal in the Unity, but is adopted at pleasure by any of the branches. It is true, also, that in the metropolis the payments of members to the widow and orphan fund are not quite equivalent to the benefits received; but in order to enhance this fund the Crystal Palace and other fêtes are occasionally organized.

The government of the Manchester Unity is very simple. The whole of the members meet in lodges in various parts of the world. So many lodges go to form a district, and so many districts the unity. Each lodge is governed by its own officers, and has direct control over its own funds, though, for the more simple attainment of death averages the funeral fund of each district is kept distinct as a matter of bookkeeping, and all the lodges pay, according to the number of their members, for their joint liability. The general capital of the society may be reckoned at not less than two millions, or an average of about £6 per member. Each lodge elects a delegate to a quarterly district committee, and these delegates legislate for the members in their section. At these district committees are chosen deputies to the annual movable committee, or parliament of the society; and at this annual committee are chosen the grand master, deputy grand master, corresponding secretary, and board of directors, who meet quarterly at Manchester, and form the executive of the society.

There are several other orders of Odd Fellows, numbering in all about half a million; but of these the Manchester Unity form more than three-fifths. Whence the name "Odd Fellow" is derived is not certainly known, but it probably came from "good fellow," and was doubtless at first adopted when this society and others of a similar character were merely "free and easy" or harmonic meetings in Manchester and elsewhere.

The following figures will show the comparative numbers in the Manchester Unity and the Foresters, according to the returns published by each society:—

	Od' Fellows.	For-sters.
England	267,394	159,838
Wales	23,011	5,661
Scotland	3,277	825
Ireland	1,013	164
Abroad	10,566	2,088
1860	305,261	168,567

Perhaps it may be as well to add, in conclusion, the members and funds belonging to the metropolitan districts. The following were the exact figures in January last:—

	N. of Members.	Average Age.	Sick and Funeral Funds.
North London ..	8,339	34 y. 6 m.	£56,010 16 3
South London ..	4,236	35 y. 3 m.	32,203 12 3
Pinlico	1,752	35 y.	6,772 3 9
Stepney	1,679	33 y. 3 m.	14,291 16 9
Woolwich	1,592	32 y. 4 m.	5,000 0 0
Waltham Abbey ..	760	35 y.	4,550 0 0
18,358			£118,831 9 0

(£6 10s. per member. Mean average age, 31 years 3 months.)

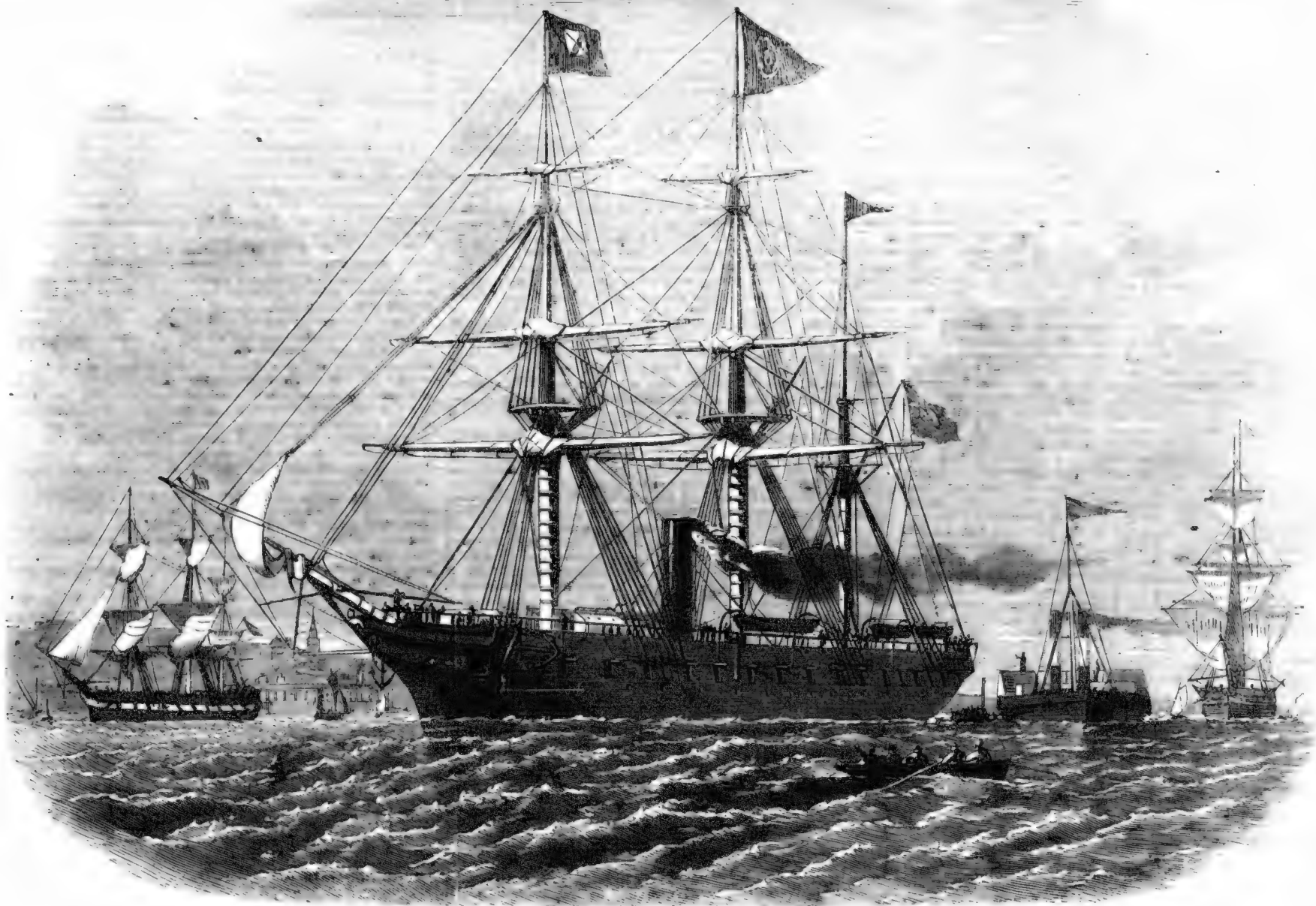
Of the social importance of the Manchester Unity, it is difficult to form too high an estimate. The society is essentially a working man's insurance company, and, when we consider the great amount of actual good accomplished by this and similar associations, we cannot but believe that it deserves all the encouragement that can be accorded to it by the wealthy, the influential, and the prudent. Its members pay their weekly pence into their lodges, and in return receive the benefits of the society, not as charity, as with the Freemasons, but as the fairly-earned reward of their prudence and forethought. The Manchester Unity dispenses its funds without in any way degrading the recipients. It extends the right hand of fellowship to all its brethren, and sets an example of self-government superior to that of any similar association in England or the world. It possesses a literary organ of its own, which circulates about 17,000 copies, and from the profits derived from the sale of which the handsome offices in Manchester were erected. In 1847 its members voluntarily subscribed £1905 for the relief of the distress in Ireland and Scotland; and in 1855 no less a sum than £2500 was collected from its members for the Patriotic and Crimean Army funds. A short time since a large sum was collected in a few weeks for the relief of the Coventry weavers; and by its means and that of kindred societies it is calculated that upwards of £2,000,000 are annually saved to the ratepayers of this kingdom; for it is a fact that an Odd Fellow scarcely ever falls into pauperism and becomes a burden to the parish. Friendship, love, and truth; faith, hope, and charity—these are its mottoes; and all its practice tends to lead its members to the daily exhibition of virtue, honour, and loyalty.

THE TOMB OF THOUSANDS.—The electric light which is now used to illuminate the Place de Palais Royal has lately been subject to remarkable changes in its brilliancy, arising from a very singular and unexpected cause. Every evening—and especially after a very warm day—clouds of insects collect around it, and each of them appears to be drawn irresistibly towards the bright points of burning carbon; but the instant they touch it they are broiled to death. The numbers that crowd to it, however, are so numerous that the light appears at times to be almost extinguished by burning insects, and every morning the bodies of these unfortunate suicides are found heaped up at the bottom of the lantern in thousands and tens of thousands.

Kew Gardens.—A fine, healthy, and vigorous plant of the *Victoria Regia*, or *Royal Lily*, is now producing a succession of its blossoms of marvellous and gorgeous beauty in the water garden of the original tropical aquarium. The leaves of this giant novelty are three feet in diameter. In the parterre of the Dutch or geometrical garden, in front of the old museum, the outer bed or open border has been planted with variegated and mixed flowers, as a design and pattern for a Coventry ribbon. It is a fine illustration and remarkable example of the talent and ingenuity of the artist and the harmonious blending of colour, and by far the leading and most prominent feature and attraction of the season. The trees, shrubs, and flowers are now in their most glorious summer beauty and splendour, and the whole noble domain (including the pleasure-grounds and new arboretum) by far more beautiful and in a higher state of cultivation than at any former period of its history. A drinking-fountain of a very novel and elegant design has been erected near a venerable walnut-tree (said to be the oldest in England), which will shortly be at the service of the public.

THE BIG GUN.—The 13-inch wrought-iron gun manufactured by the Messrs Steel and Iron Company was again tested at Portsmouth the other day, and with twelve degrees of elevation, with 10lb. of powder threw a 280 lb. shot, 3883 yards. To test it still further it was charged with 50lb. of powder, a 280 lb. shot, and a heavy wad. To prevent accidents, the piece was discharged with a portfire of three minutes' elevation, when, contrary to all expectation, it stood well. It is said that this enormous piece of ordnance is to be mounted where it now is, and is to be tried against armour-plates. The dimensions of the gun are as follow:—Length from breech to muzzle, 15 ft. 10 in.; length of bore, 13 ft. 4 in.; diameter of bore, 13 in.; weight of gun, 21 tons 17 cwt. 2 qrs. The weight of the carriage is 7 tons 1 cwt. 1 qr.

SHOCKING ACCIDENT IN SWITZERLAND.—As the Baronne d'Herincourt, aged twenty-three, sister of M. de Maupais, Senator, and Prefect of Marseilles, was with her husband proceeding over the Gemoni, one of the highest mountains in the Oberland, a few days ago, the mule suddenly fell, when at the brink of a precipice from 200 to 250 yards deep, and the unfortunate lady was buried into the frightful abyss. In falling she raised one piercing cry, and when some persons hastened to the bottom of the precipice they found her dashed literally to pieces. The Baron d'Herincourt was so dreadfully affected at the awful spectacle that he almost lost his reason, and would have thrown himself down the abyss had he not been prevented by the guides.



NEW LINE OF STEAMERS TO INDIA.—THE HYDASPES



THE ODD FELLOWS' FETE AT THE CRYSTAL PALACE.



"EARLY SPRING: A VIEW IN THE NEIGHBOURHOOD OF BURNHAM BEECHES."—(FROM A WATER-COLOUR DRAWING BY J. C. REED.)



VILLAGE DRILL: THE TEDDINGTON VOLUNTEERS.

"EARLY SPRING."

POETS of all degrees have unanimously adopted the early spring-tide as the season to which their songs should be dedicated: and, indeed, to the painter as well as to the poet "spring's d-lights" offers a subject so tender, so beautiful, that his hand must dwell almost lovingly on the canvas where its features are recorded.

There is something in the springtide which brings with it such a renewal of hope, such a tender glow of fancy, such a healthful revival of heart and life, that it exercises more influence upon us than the golden glow of summer, or even the ripe and ruddy glories of autumn. Life seems to spring everywhere into such renewed activity—from the linnet in the bush to the lamb on the lea—all nature leaps into the youth of the new-born year, and health and hope freshen with the soft sweet air.

Truly, there are many sweet springtide spots in England where this influence may be felt as it can be in no other country in the world, and the artist who has chosen the neighbourhood of those grand old trees near Burnham Beeches knows well, as an artist, that the very breath of spring seems to sigh there more sweetly and softly.

With the love of a true artist, too, he has caught the influence of the time. The tender leaflets on the trees and hedges stir, the lambs gather strength to leap, and the picture glows with a truth and a reality which takes us in imagination to the great tree under whose gnarled branches we might sit, and—in the spirit of Ingoldsby, who imagined of the wood-pigeons that cooed overhead

How nice they would be with a steak in a pie!—
think gratefully of lamb and green peas.

THE VILLAGE DRILL AT TEDDINGTON.

TEDDINGTON! Where is Teddington? There are several villages in England which rejoice in that name; but the Teddington we have to do with occupies a retired situation on the Middlesex side of the Thames, between Hampton Court and Twickenham, and opposite the Teddington Locks, well known to piscatorial cockneys and athletic oarsmen from Oxford and Cambridge. It has now received the degree of S.W. in the London district, but for some years was distinguished from the other Teddingtons as being the headquarters of "The Society for the Suppression of Snuff and Tobacco." It has never been clearly ascertained whether the proceedings of that well-meaning society were wont to terminate in smoke, though of late years they have certainly been under a cloud. But to come to the subject of our illustration. What, it may be asked, is there extraordinary about the Teddington Volunteers that they should be thus held up to public notice? The truth is there is nothing extraordinary about them, and our illustration is merely a passing, wayside sketch of one of those quietly-significant scenes which may be witnessed nightly in almost every town and village throughout this island, in which the actors are animated by the most patriotic motives, and where the squire takes common ground with the agricultural labourer, and merchants and tradesmen, mechanics and members of the learned professions, meet on terms of equality.

Teddington, which contains a total population of 1183, contributes the respectable proportion of 50 volunteers, 35 of whom are between the ages of seventeen and forty, and are classed as effectives, and a cadet corps of 15, aged from nine to sixteen, armed with lances, and under training in martial music. They have been organised within the last nine months, are now under the charge of Sergeant Wilson, of Weir House, and have enrolled themselves in the King-ton or 12th Surrey Rifles, recently inspected by Colonel Luard, the Government officer, who expressed a highly eulogistic opinion of the efficiency of the regiment. The commanding officer was on the same occasion presented with a magnificent service of plate, of the value of 200 guineas, bearing the following inscription:—"Presented to Major William Marshall Cochrane by the members, the promoters, the officers and men of the 12th Surrey Rifle Corps, to commemorate his services in raising and organising a battalion of more than 400 volunteers, and his ability and assiduity in commanding them."

When the volunteers turned out at the beginning of the present century, the Teddingtonians enrolled in the Spelthorpe Legion, which was commanded by his late Majesty King William IV., at that time Duke of Clarence, and resident at Bushy House, Teddington. The enthusiasm with which the volunteer movement has been entered into at Teddington evinces the pleasing fact that the sons are not unworthy of their sires.

CONCERTS.

MR. ALFRED MELLON has made a good beginning at Covent-garden Theatre, and the success of his second annual series of promenade concerts is already assured. The spacious theatre itself, and not the Floral Hall, is the scene of his labours; but the public would fill more room even than is afforded them by the important change. Mr. Mellon's strong point, of course, is the orchestra, which he leads with such consummate tact; but he has added to the instrumental attractions by the engagement of the National Choral Society, under the guidance of a director who is nearly as skilled in command as himself, to wit, Mr. G. W. Martin. The solo vocalists, who complete the programme, are Mme. Laura Baxter and Mlle. Pappa. The theatre has been specially arranged for these concerts, the stage and the space in front having been connected, and thrown into one vast area by the boarding over of the stalls and pit. A raised orchestra stands in the middle, and room is found for the choral body in the amphitheatre, where they are lost to sight, but not to hearing. Their execution of the conductor's choral march, "Forward!" at the opening concert on Monday was so spirited, as well as perfect in its precision and blending of different voices, that the audience honoured it with a hearty and unanimous encore, about which there was nothing of that doubt and hesitation common to the modern system of encores. The harmonised version of "The Last Rose of Summer" was deservedly applauded though not with so spontaneous an enthusiasm as to warrant its repetition. Altogether, we congratulate Mr. Mellon on the accession of the National Choral Society to his following. The great instrumental features of the first concert were Mendelssohn's Italian symphony, the overture to "Der Freischütz," an operatic selection from "La Favorita," arranged by Mr. Alfred Mellon, and that gentleman's new and already popular quadrille, composed in honour of the Dramatic College, and played for the first time at the Crystal Palace fête. All these pieces were rendered with an effect which no orchestra in the world could surpass, the great work of Mendelssohn receiving full justice in the finer concerted and solo portions, as well as in the forte passages, where a vigour of ensemble is demanded. Mlle. Pappa sang "Ernani involami," and Auber's aria, "Du village voisin," from "Le Serment," in which she was encored. Mme. Baxter's performances were the chazouetta, "Fanciulle che il core," from "Dinorah," and "Home, sweet home," the last being loudly redemanded. The solo instrumentalists whose names are identified with the Covent Garden band were reinforced by M. Paque, the distinguished player on the French horn, from the Italiens.

The last notes of Mlle. Patti for this year were heard at the Crystal Palace on Friday, the 9th inst. The young lady was prodigal in the display of her versatile gifts, singing homely English ballads and brilliant Italian music with equal perfection. The concert was of that miscellaneous character to which the habitués of the Crystal Palace are accustomed, and, at this distance of time, demands no further recognition from us than the acknowledgment of its general excellence.

THE GOVERNMENT OF MONTE VIDEO have adopted a new customs tariff, by which protective duties are abandoned, and the principles of free trade recognised.

DEATH OF MDME. CATHERINE HAYES.

The death of Mdme Catherine Hayes, or Mdme Catherine Hayes Bushnell, as she has been called since her marriage with her late husband, took place on Sunday last at the house of some friends near Sydenham. On the evening of Monday, the 5th inst., she broke a bloodvessel, and, after lingering against hope throughout the week, breathed her last on Sunday night.

To the musical world the loss of this accomplished person will be great, but to the large circle of her private friends it is irreparable. Of late years she has avoided rather than courted the popularity which she never sought for in vain. The great fatigues of the professional tour round the world which she took in 1851-5 had borne heavily on a constitution never very strong, and a severe accident which happened to her in America, when a horse fell with and rolled over her, produced effects from which she never thoroughly recovered.

Catherine Hayes was born at Limerick in the year 1823, of parents in a respectable though not exalted station in life. Her musical abilities were very early developed, and Dr. Knox, the then Bishop of Limerick, took a great interest in the young vocalist. There is a story that the Bishop first heard her warble on the banks of the Shannon as he and some friends were returning one evening from a picnic. "The young songstress," says the chronicler, "was seated one evening in her favourite resort—an arbour at the water's edge—warbling ballad after ballad, and revelling in the solitude which gave her courage to reveal the full compass and power of her voice, when its clear tones arrested the attention of a pleasure party that happened to be rowing near at hand on the river. Boat after boat dropped silently down the stream; not a sound interrupted her until a prolonged shake—her newest toy—with which she concluded the 'Lass o' Gowrie,' wrung a loud burst of applause from her unseen listeners." The story goes on to say that the good Bishop was of the party, and from that moment the fortunes of the young singer were in the ascendant. Invitations followed; the funds were obtained to procure for her the necessary instruction. She went to Dublin to study under a famous master; thence to Paris, where she studied under Emmanuel Garcia, the master of Malibran and Jenny Lind; thence she went to Milan and ultimately to Marseilles, where she made her debut in "Paritani," in the year 1845. Her appearance was hailed as a success, and afterwards she appeared at La Scala, as prima donna, in the character of Linda di Chamouni. From Milan she went to Vienna, thence to Venice and to all the principal Italian cities. In 1849 she made her appearance at Covent Garden with great success, also in the part of Linda. Her countrymen, the Irish, were especially enthusiastic, and when she subsequently visited Dublin and the principal cities and towns of Ireland, their excited admiration knew no bounds. Over and over again they took the horses from her carriage in order to enjoy the privilege of drawing it themselves. In 1851 she entered into an arrangement with a London music-publisher to take a journey to America; but, owing to some disagreement, arising out of the conduct of the agent who was deputed to accompany her, she resolved to perform the journey at her own risk, and accordingly paid a large sum in forfeit to the entrepreneur to enable her to do so. This journey was most successful in every point of view. In the United States, California, the Sandwich Islands, Australia, Calcutta, Bombay, Ceylon, Java, wherever she went, she gained golden opinions and golden guerdon. As with Mdme. Lind, her charitable disposition, as much as her sweet voice, won for her the hearts of every one; and it is the most striking proof of the consideration in which she was held from a social as well as from an artistic point of view, that, since she has returned and become domiciled in London, her house has been resorted to by the most distinguished colonists who have visited England.

It was on her return from this great musical tour that she married Mr. Bushnell, who had been her secretary throughout, and had manifested the most disinterested zeal for her interests. The happiness of the pair was not of long duration, for Mr. Bushnell died shortly afterwards in the Pyrenees of rapid consumption. Since that melancholy event Mdme. Catherine Hayes has had too much need to nurse her strength to allow of much public work. Whenever she appeared, however, it was to receive the applause due to her feeling manner of singing. Two years ago some said that her voice was going, but returning health brought back all the old freshness and clearness, and never in her life did she pour forth her notes with a richer fullness or a more profound depth of heart than upon more than one occasion during the past few weeks.

In Catherine Hayes Ireland has lost one of the sweetest singers of its national airs. A daughter of the sister isle, she was thoroughly imbued with the spirit of its melody; and it was in the alternately wild and tender melodies which have inspired so many poets—and foremost among them Thomas Moore, whose "Irish Melodies" more than anything else that fell from his pen proclaim his genius and perpetuate his name—that her genial warmth of expression found its highest medium for display. As a singer of this particular class of music she was probably unsurpassed. It was here, far more than in the Italian vocalisation of which she had made herself an accomplished adept, that Catherine Hayes possessed the secret to charm the crowd. In her own country she had but to give a national air and hold the audience spellbound; and no wonder, for surely the best judges of what is perfect Irish ballad singing are the Irish people themselves. When their favoured child of song, their Stephens and Jenny Lind in one, came forward with an Italian "bravura"—a specimen of what she had learned in her transalpine experience—they were proud of her as of a countrywoman who, in their estimation, could rival the most practised mistresses of foreign art; but it was not till the ballad came—the simple national ballad—and the notes flowed with unstudied eloquence from her lips, that they were fairly enchanted. Of the first, indeed, for the most part, they knew nothing, while the last touched the innermost chord of their being, and made it vibrate with delight. Even with as more critical and less impassioned English, it was in the unaffected Irish, Scotch, or English ballad that Catherine Hayes won nearly all her laurels; not because of its contrast with her Italian "cavatina," by which we were never very greatly impressed, and to the faults of which our connoisseurs were thoroughly alive, but because we like whatever is genuine for its own sake; and this was genuine in her.

In recording the death of Catherine Hayes, at the early age of forty years, we have not merely to condole with her warm-hearted compatriots, who saw no fault in anything she did, who applauded her foreign and worshipped her national song, but with the British public generally, who have lost a popular favourite, and one in an eminent degree entitled to be regarded as a true and earnest artist.

NEW COINAGE ACT.—In the new Coinage Act, which will take effect on the 1st of November, there is a clause making it a misdemeanour to deface coin by stamping words thereon, under which an offender can be kept to hard labour for one year. Further, it is declared that the tender of coin so defaced is not a legal tender, and a penalty of 40s. can be recovered on conviction of any person uttering the same. The prosecution is to be with the consent of the Attorney-General.

SOUTH LANCASHIRE ELECTION.—The nomination of candidates for the new seat for South Lancashire took place at Newton-le-Willows on Wednesday, in presence of about 4000 persons. Mr. Turner was proposed by Mr. Francis Shand, and seconded by Mr. R. H. Norreys. Mr. T. Brocklebank proposed, and Mr. Mark Phillips seconded, Mr. John Cheetham. Both candidates then addressed the assembly in explanation of their political views, after which a show of hands was taken by the High Sheriff, who declared that the majority of hands was in favour of Mr. Turner. A poll was then demanded on the part of Mr. Cheetham, and the proceedings terminated with a vote of thanks to the High Sheriff. The poll is fixed for to-day (Saturday). A large proportion of the persons assembled did not vote for either candidate.

JOHN WILLIAM RISHKOW, a messenger in the Düsseldorf branch of the Bank of Prussia, has absconded with £16,000. A reward has been offered for his apprehension.

FIRES IN LONDON.

WE have lately had an epidemic of fires; in fact, the metropolis is becoming a veritable Terra del Fuego—a land of fire.

During Sunday night and Monday morning no fewer than six fires occurred in different parts of the metropolis, some of which were attended with great loss of property. One happened in the premises belonging to Mr. G. Stocker, a piece-broker, situated at No. 5, Clothfair, West Smithfield. The building was of considerable extent, it being four stories high, and composed principally of timber. In a very brief period the engines of the London Brigade attended, as well as the great steam land engine of Shand and Mason. Plenty of water having been procured from the mains in the district, the engines were set to work, but the flames continued to extend, and at length the whole range of Mr. Stocker's premises presented a huge sheet of fire. Eventually the brigade succeeded in getting the fire extinguished, but not before the building in which the disaster commenced was nearly destroyed. Stocker was insured in the Royal Fire Office.

While the last-named fire was raging, another took place in the premises of Mr. H. M. Whitelock, marine-store dealer, No. 55, Compton-street, Clerkenwell. Three parish engines, with five of the London Brigade, were early in reaching the scene. Plenty of water was at once procured, and the engines were set to work, but the fire could not be subdued until the lower part of the premises and the stock in trade were destroyed, and the remainder of the building seriously damaged by fire, &c.

Another fire happened in the premises of Mr. P. Reardon, Brazier's buildings, Blue Anchor-yard, Royal Mint-street. The engines of the London Brigade were quickly in attendance, but the firemen were unable to get the flames extinguished until the first floor was nearly burnt out, and the ceilings below damaged by water.

On Monday morning, about seven o'clock, a destructive fire broke out in the Temperance Coffee-house and Assembly Rooms, belonging to Mr. Blackwell, situated in Bunhill-row, St. Luke's. Several engines were early on the spot, and were set to work, but in spite of their exertions the whole of the front premises were destroyed and the lecture-hall seriously damaged. The whole of the inmates had a narrow escape, they being obliged to run to the roof, and were taken down a ladder by the Royal Society's escape-conductors and the neighbours.

Another fire broke out on the premises of Messrs. Sullivan and Mills, 15, Great Pearl-street, Spitalfields, which was attended with serious consequences to some of the firemen. The Farringdon-street Brigade engine was following others of the establishment, when on turning out of Sun-street the horses fell, and the ponderous machine toppled over throwing the firemen upon the ground. Some escaped with a few bruises, but one of the men, named George Cole, fell under the engine, the whole weight of which, 26 cwt., rested on his abdomen. He was rescued as soon as possible and taken to the hospital, where he remains in a very precarious condition. Two parish engines and several of the London Brigade were set to work, but although they were furnished with an ample supply of water the fire continued to spread, and in a brief period the back workshops, nearly 40 ft. long, were in a blaze, the light of the fire being seen over the whole of the metropolis. The fire was eventually extinguished, but not before the second floor was burned out, the roof off, and the silversmith-room under severely damaged by water.

On Monday night a very destructive fire happened in the premises termed the White Post, Hackney Wick, belonging to Messrs. G. Spill and Co., water-proof-manufacturers. Two parish engines, with those of the London Brigade, were soon on the spot, and, although a good supply of water was obtained, the firemen were unable to get the flames extinguished until a building 50 ft. long was, together with its contents, consumed.

Another fire happened on the premises of Mr. John Braund, No. 5, George-street, Portman-square. The engine of the London Brigade promptly attended, and as promptly were set to work, but the fire could not be extinguished until a serious amount of mischief was done.

On Sunday morning a wharf near the Commercial Docks, in the occupancy of a carpenter and joiner, took fire, and, as it was composed principally of timber, burned with great rapidity.

CAUSES OF DEATH AND RATE OF MORTALITY.—To the Registrar-General's report recently issued is appended an instructive paper by Dr. W. Farr on the causes of death in England. The year now reported on (1859) is the first in which diphtheria has obtained a distinct line in the tables. It had previously been confounded with croup; and when the two are put together the rapid progress of this great epidemic becomes evident. The deaths in 1855 were 385; in 1856, 603; in 1857, 1583; in 1858, 6606; in 1859, 10,184. Of the whole deaths of the year one-fourth were referred to zymotic diseases. Smallpox destroyed 3848 persons, chiefly children who had not been vaccinated—an instance, as Dr. Farr remarks, of the rigour with which the infringement of sanitary laws is visited, for the children perish and the parents lose their offspring by the neglect of a precaution of the simplest kind. A fatal outbreak of erysipelas at the Winchester Infirmary was traced to a cesspool. Of the parasitic diseases it is remarked that the ova of worms must be derived generally from impure waters into which the refuse of towns is poured. We have but an imperfect conception of the number of deaths from excessive drinking; but 345 were directly ascribed to intemperance, and 545 to delirium tremens, 890 in all from the two forms of alcoholism. Passing next to constitutional diseases, we find good described as nearly stationary; it is considered that, thanks to the more intelligent system of dining which the wealthier classes, wearied of this racking disease, will probably introduce, we may hope to see gout rapidly decline. The deaths from tuberculous disease have decreased since 1833; those from bronchitis have increased very greatly of late years. Among local diseases we find affections of the three vital organs—the brain, the heart, and the lungs—causing nearly a third of all the deaths of the year. Frigate was the cause of seven deaths (not all children), grief of eight (seven women), rage of five (four infants); anxiety of one, a man; mental shock of one, a woman; melancholy of the deaths of twenty-one men and twenty-six women. Above 25,000, chiefly infants, died of convulsions—a striking and distressing symptom, but probably only part of the disease, which is the result of organic lesions and local irritations that are never discovered. 27,104 deaths are referred to the decay of old age without any disease; "the weary wheel of life at length stood still." 14,619 persons were killed: a sad confession, says Dr. Farr, for a nation humane, civilised, and skilled in all the arts, to have to make. Annually 75 persons in 100,000 thus die a violent death, 13,056 of these deaths in 1859 are ascribed to accident or negligence; among them were 279 by poison. 1248 deaths were declared by coroners' juries to be suicides; 338 murder or manslaughter. 18 persons were killed by lightning, nearly all persons of outdoor occupations; it would thus seem that the house is safer than the field. From this report and public documents issued in France we find that in Great Britain the mortality was at the rate of 2.196 per cent, in France 2.670, but this latter is considerably above the average of that empire owing to the prevalence at that time of dysentery, diphtheria, and some other epidemics. The marriage rate in Great Britain was 1.650 per cent, in France 1.638. The birth rate in Great Britain was 3.482, in France 2.778. Thus the marriage rate and the birth rate being lower in France than in Great Britain and the death rate higher, the natural increase of population is less in France than in Great Britain. The births in France in 1859 were 1,011,787; there is no record of the births in Ireland, but it is estimated that the births in the United Kingdom amounted to nearly the same number; but the deaths in France were 972,556, while the deaths in the United Kingdom were estimated at not exceeding 661,171, fewer deaths by 300,000, with about an equal number of births.

THE PRINCE OF WALES'S GENEROSITY.—The following story of Prince Alfred is from an American paper:—"The Doctor," a famous jockey, who had the contract to furnish thirty horses for the suite of the Prince of Wales throughout the tour at eight dollars each per day, drove Prince Alfred to the Falls of Montmorency. "The Doctor" remarked to Alfred, "I drove the Prince of Wales here." "Did you?" said the Prince. "Yes, and his Royal Highness gave me this gold watch." "You are a lucky fellow," replied Prince Alfred; "that is more than he ever did for me." "The Doctor" subsided.

INDIAN FAMINE RELIEF FUND.—By the mail of Saturday evening a further sum of £1005 was forwarded from the Mansion House to the Central Relief Committee at Calcutta, to be applied at their discretion in mitigating whatever suffering may still exist from famine in Upper India. This makes the aggregate amount sent by the Relief Committee up to this time to Bombay and Calcutta £107,500, exclusive of £9916 collected at Liverpool, £7220 in Edinburgh, £6834 in Manchester, £6553 in Glasgow, and a corresponding large sum in Dublin. Since we last noticed the subject £2136 17s. additional donations have been sent to the Mansion House up to the 26th inst., including £412 odd from Oldham, £841 from British Guiana, £418 from Rio de Janeiro, £236 odd from Paris (through Messrs. Galignani), £23 from Geneva, and £23 from Malaga, making the total receipts at the Mansion House up to that date, exclusive of the sums subscribed in the five largest towns above mentioned, £112,435 17s.—By the Indian mail just arrived we learn that the Famine Relief Committees are performing their labours well in the North-west Provinces. Nearly 10,000 people are being daily relieved in the same way. About 1000 poor widows obtain weekly relief in money at the Delhi Gate; 1000 rupees a month are distributed to families of respectability now reduced to poverty, but ashamed to be seen seeking charity. About 10,000 persons are employed daily in some kind of work by the Relief Society and Government. At Agra about 2000 are daily employed on the relief works, and on the Fettehgar branch of the Ganges Canal about 4000. So in other places. Great and increasing distress prevails in Peshawar. Villages are being depopulated. Famine is said to exist in Cabul.

LAW AND CRIME.

Is our police report last week, under the heading of "Can it be True?" we recorded a charge of shop-lifting upon which a young lady had been remanded. She had entered a haberdasher's, and, after she had bought articles to the value of 11d., a roll of ribbon, value 6s., was found in her pocket, wrapped in paper. On this charge Mr. Arnold, the magistrate, announced his intention of committing her for trial. On Monday last Mr. Sleigh, barrister, appeared before Mr. Arnold to endeavour to induce him to revoke this decision. Mr. Sleigh proved, from medical, family, and other evidence, that the unfortunate prisoner was of infirm mind, subject to fits of absence of mind, and utterly unfit to be trusted in matters of purchase or carriage of parcels, and apt to commit unforeseen acts of omission and commission from sheer inadvertence. Her sisters had for some time resolved not to visit shops with her in consequence of her slowness in selecting articles. Mr. Arnold observed that he (Mr. Arnold) was adopting an unusual course, but trusted he was perfectly justified in discharging the prisoner, and recommended her family not again to let her enter shops alone.

It is with great hesitation that we venture to refer to the case of the Baron de Vidil, at present under detention for trial for a murderous assault upon his son. There would be no excuse for so doing, in such an interim, were it not a duty to point out certain efforts at present being made to endeavour to bring the whole matter to an untimely extinction. The *Times*, in more than one article, has been trying to bring about this consummation, and no less to soften the shock which public feeling would doubtless experience were such a heinous charge as this to escape the strictest investigation. It is suggested—which nowhere appears in evidence—that the son struck his father the first blow; that the son is of a weak and timid disposition; that the father may have committed the act under temporary insanity; that the grand jury may, on the refusal of the son to give evidence, conscientiously refuse to find a true bill. We trust, however, for the credit of English justice simply, that the grand jury will have a better idea of their duties than to attend to suggested defences raised only in the columns of a newspaper, or to throw out a bill because a prosecuting witness declines his evidence. If such evidence be refused, there is all the greater reason why the matter should be sent to be dealt with in the ordinary course. Young Vidil may, perhaps, not object, under certain circumstances, to have his forehead smashed; but what is it to us, even if he prefer that alternative to dining with his father at Hampton? The less he cares about it the more business have our authorities to interfere. We are not going to allow foreign gentlemen to carry on such amusements as this just because it suits their humours or conveniences. We in England have our rights and our interests in the preservation of the Queen's peace; and, if this be broken, somebody must pay for it, young M. Vidil and the chiefs of the Orleanist party notwithstanding. We have not the slightest prejudice in the matter, one way or the other; but when a young fellow, half killed, claims protection against murder by somebody else, who gives a lying account of the injuries inflicted on the sufferer, leaves the realm without troubling himself about an accusation of attempted murder, and is brought back "voluntarily" at the suggestion, and in the company of, foreign police, we want to know all about it—whether influential friends of any person concerned choose to tamper with a *Times* paragrapher and to procure the suppression of evidence or not.

It is, happily, an almost unprecedented occurrence for an English Judge to excite peal after peal of derisive laughter in his own court at his own expense. Mr. Commissioner Fane accomplished this feat during the present week. On Monday last his Honour announced from his bench as Commissioner in Bankruptcy, that he had lately addressed a letter to Lord Palmerston expressing his (the learned Commissioner's) feelings as to the way in which he and his colleagues had been treated in the new Bankruptcy Act. He expressed his intention of reading that letter in his court next day, invited the attendance of the bar and the press, and promised a printed copy of the letter to every gentleman desiring it. On the morning the court was crowded, when the Commissioner, amid "ironical laughter," declared his intention of postponing the reading of the letter "until the reassembling of the legal world after the holidays," and acknowledged his change of project to be due to the advice of a gentleman in whose judgment he had great confidence. So Lord Palmerston is respected until the "reassembling of the legal world," whenever and wherever that may take place.

Mr. Baron Martin was on Tuesday last occupied in trying a fellow named Chalkley, who had formerly combined usury with piety by being at once a leader of the Methodist body and manager of a loan society at Liverpool. As might have been expected, the attempted amalgamation of religious principle with the interests of the loan society utterly failed, and at length a deficit was discovered in the society of several thousand pounds and the manager. It is rather singular, and tells somewhat in his favour, that he does not appear to have taken with him the mother of some other family, as usual in such cases. After some months' absence, he appeared in disguise at Southampton, where he was given into custody for forgery. He was found guilty of this crime, and sentenced to fifteen years' penal servitude.

Two cases of singular atrocity were last week tried in one day at Chester. In the first, a ruffianly tramp was charged with attempting to murder his female companion. She had been walking with him through a wood, when, on her complaining of headache, they both rested, and she fell asleep with her head in his lap. She was awakened by his violence, and he commenced battering her head with heavy, sharp flint-stones which he picked up, and which, to use her expression, seemed to "cut her like oyster-shells." More than once when he thought he had killed her he left her, but returned to the attack on finding that she still breathed. He told her coolly that he intended to have her life, and on his last blow,

which he believed killed her, murmured something about her having now "got it to rights." The wretched creature, horribly disfigured, with no less than twenty-one wounds on her head and face, was picked up by a carman, and was ultimately so far recovered by medical aid as to give evidence against the assassin. Upon this evidence the prisoner was found "Guilty," and in this case of almost unexampled barbarity the strict law was acted upon in his sentence, which was that of death. The next case was that of two children, each eight years old, who stripped and murdered a playfellow aged only two years and a half. Having undressed him, they forced him into a pool, and there beat him with a hedge-stake till he fell from exhaustion, and was thus drowned. The young villains appeared perfectly conscious of the crime, each one of them accusing the other not of the entire offence, but of his full share. The jury returned a verdict of "Manslaughter," but by what process of reasoning we are unable to explain. The Judge thereupon sentenced them each to one month's imprisonment, and afterwards to five years in a reformatory.

POLICE.

SHOCKING CASE OF STABBING.—Charles Wm. Jeff, thirty years of age, residing at No. 40, Acton-street, Gray's-inn-road, and described as a rascal in a newspaper, was charged with wounding Francis Cossum, with intent to do him grievous bodily harm, in Exmouth-street, Clerkenwell.

The accused was partially dressed in a volunteer uniform, and his belt and bayonet were produced in court. His left hand was bandaged, and his right arm was in splints. The prosecutor, a quiet-looking young fellow, had his head entirely wrapped in hospital bandages, and here were marks of other injuries on his body.

The prosecutor said—I am a mathematical instrument maker. I know the prisoner, but he is no relation of mine. On Monday evening I was passing his house, and his wife, who was standing at the door, and whom I have known for some years, invited me in.

Mr. D'Eyncourt—What did she say to you?
Prosecutor (after some hesitation)—She said, "Frank, will you come up stairs?" I did so, and went into the first floor.

What happened when you got there? Speak up!
He was not at home when I got up stairs, and I was just going when he came home, and as I was coming out of his room he tried to stab me. He wanted to know my name, and I told him. He went into his back room, and I went away and proceeded to the corner of Exmouth-street, when the prisoner came up to me and stuck a knife into my head, and the blade broke off. When I was coming down the stairs at his house he made a thrust at me with his bayonet. I had been from his house ten or fifteen minutes before he stabbed me.

In answer to questions by the magistrate, complainant admitted that he had been carrying on a clandestine correspondence with prisoner's wife.

Two medical gentlemen deposed to the injuries inflicted, one of them stating that he had to use three pairs of forceps, one of which broke, in drawing the broken blade of a pocket-knife from prosecutor's skull.

Mr. Alexander (the second clerk) asked if the accused wished to say anything?

Prisoner—Yes. I can throw a light on the whole matter.

Mr. D'Eyncourt told the prisoner he need not say anything unless he liked—at all events, until he had some one to defend him.

Prisoner—I could enter into details, but I shall not have any one to defend me. I think it better that I should explain the case, but I do not wish to take up the time of the Court. I should wish to state that I did not disgrace the volunteer cause by drawing my bayonet. It seems to be the idea, from the way in which it has been flourished about here, that I used it. I had been to drill, but I did not use my bayonet at all.

The prisoner was then remanded for further evidence.

A SLIGHT ERROR OF A POLICEMAN.—Margaret Henley, twenty-two, single, and Frances Emerson, twenty-eight, were charged, the former with being disorderly in the public road, and the other with attempting to rescue her.

Barker, 527 N, said that he saw the two women after twelve o'clock on the night previous in the New North-road disputing with some men. Henley refused to go away when he desired her, and became so violent that he was compelled to take her into custody, upon seeing which Emerson interfered and strove to get her companion away. She also was therefore locked up.

Mr. Vann—This is a most unjust interference with the liberty of the subject. I will show the undoubted respectability of these persons so subjected to insult and a cell. They had been to a party of friends, as I am instructed, at Islington, and, living in opposite directions, were bidding each other a "Good night" when pounced upon by this policeman. He took care to lock both up, so that I am prevented from calling one of them as a witness.

A widow lady was here called, who said—My name is Emerson. That lady is my daughter. She also is a widow, and resides with me in the Fulford-road, Kingsland. I know Miss Henley. She is of most respectable family, and resides with her parents. They had been out for the evening to some friends of mine, and shocked at hearing that she was locked up. We bailed her and Miss Henley out at two o'clock in the morning.

Mr. Leigh said this was not a question of character. If they refused to move away when creating a disturbance in the streets at such an hour they must take the consequences.

Mr. Vann contended that character had all to do with it. The ladies were incapable of acting as alleged, and the constable's statement was quite unsupported. He had made gross remarks to them, and was the actual offender.

Finally the defendants, whose appearance and demeanour were certainly in keeping with their asserted respectability, were discharged.

THE OLD BUFFALO AT BAY.—George Smith, a builder, of Old Ford, Bow, was charged with wilfully breaking the entire glass front of a shop window.

The complainant, Mr. Wetton, a baker, at Bow, said—This morning my landlady, the gentleman at the bar, coolly came in front of my shop and smashed all the windows. He has made a hole in the back of my oven and taken the roof off my house. Many a batch of bread has he spoiled. My property is devastated.

Defendant—Your property! Mine. I admit the damage, all of it, and I meant it. Your Worship, this man is, in point of fact, an outlaw. (Laughter.)

Complainant—I have been his tenant twelve months, and here are my receipts of payment of rent for eleven months out of the time.

Defendant—Nonsense! Some of them are in your own writing. I admit the damage, all of it, and more if you like; but (vehemently) if it costs me £5000 the fellow shall go out. He can't bake with a large hole in his oven, nor live without a roof over his head.

Complainant—What is to become of my furniture!
Defendant (contemptuously)—Furniture! A flock bed and a three-legged stool. Let the officer go and look at the place, and if he finds more than sixpennyworth there I'll suffer any punishment you (the magistrate) may choose to inflict. He is a "thing." He calls me "Old Buffalo" (Roars of laughter.)

Mr. Leigh—I am told that you are sober, and that this is your general manner; if so, most certainly you are the most singular character of the day. It is not because

you are the landlord of the premises that you are to destroy them at your will and pleasure. As surely you have committed damage under the tenancy, and you must pay for the whole with costs, or suffer fourteen days' imprisonment.

Defendant—Thank you. I knew it must be so—expected nothing else; but perhaps he will pay me my rent, and then I can pay his damages. "Old Buffalo," indeed!

The money was paid.

A STUDY OF DIPSONOMANIA.—A young man named Henry Dumper, in a pitifully shaking state, was placed at the bar, charged as under:—

A police-constable deposed to seeing the prisoner on Paddington-green in a drunken state. He entered several shops for the purpose of begging, when witness took him in charge.

Mr. Yardley—What have you to say, prisoner?
Prisoner—It's quite true. I can't help getting drunk. I smoke and drink too. You can do what you like; you can give me six months if you like.

Mr. Yardley—You cannot help getting drunk, you say?
Prisoner—I want something from a doctor.

Mr. Yardley—You want something to drink?

Prisoner—I want a drop of something from the doctor's to put me to rights. I had the delirium tremens in the cell last night, I think.

Mr. Yardley—He does not seem right in his mind.

Prisoner—I'm not. Can I see a doctor, sir? They would not let me last night.

Mr. Yardley—What do you want with a doctor?

Prisoner (who from his shaking was evidently under one of the stages of delirium tremens)—To put me to rights—for am I to suffer in this way?

Mr. Yardley—What are you?

Prisoner—I am a grocer's assistant. I have no work.

Mr. Yardley—I should think not. Are you married?

Prisoner—No; I live with my parents. I get drunk, and I can't help it. They won't believe it, though. I smoke at times. I smoke a pipe; yet they won't believe I get drunk. I do get drunk, and can't help it.

Mr. Yardley—How do you get the money for drink?

Prisoner—Excuse me for not attending. I do anything to get it. I must have the drink. They won't believe I do get it, though.

Mr. Yardley—The prisoner is evidently not in a right state of mind.

Prisoner—You are quite right, I am not. I have been in a lunatic asylum for nine months.

Mr. Yardley—You are not fit to be at large.

Prisoner—Oh dear, no; I won't be at large.

Mr. Yardley ordered him to be sent to the Paddington Workhouse.

THE BRIDE-LANE BETTING MEN.—Four men were charged with creating an obstruction in Bride-lane by assembling there continually with others during the daytime. It was understood they were of the class known as "betting men."

The adjourned hearing was resumed at four o'clock on Wednesday. The several defendants appeared, and evidence was adduced to support the allegations as to the obstructions caused in Bride-lane by the defendants or in consequence of their acts.

Several police-constables, who had been sent to the spot on special duty in connection with the matter, gave evidence which clearly established the assemblage of crowds and the presence of those charged.

Some of the inhabitants also proved that the groups of persons so assembled acted detrimentally to the proper conduct of their business, and showed that the existing obstructions had only been since the defendants and others following the same calling had frequented that special locality.

Mr. Metcalfe, for the defendants, in a spirited address characterised the prosecution as a crusade against betting on a small scale, and strongly inveighed against the City authorities for not exercising their virtuous families in putting down betting elsewhere, whether at Tattersall's or not.

The presiding magistrate, Mr. Alderman Hale, suggested that Tattersall's was not within the jurisdiction of the City; upon which

Mr. Metcalfe, amid a burst of cheering, which was with difficulty partially suppressed, rejoined that "at all events the Stock Exchange and Mark-lane are."

Ultimately the defendants were bound over, in their own recognisances of £50 each, and one surety in £40, to appear at the next Sessions of the Central Criminal Court to answer any indictment that might be preferred against them.

The court was densely crowded by the dingy supporters of the nuisance.

ROBBERY BY AN ACOLYTE.—James Powell, a well-dressed youth, of good education and address, the son of a Custom House officer, was brought up on remand before Mr. Woolrych, charged with stealing a gold watch, valued at fourteen guineas, the property of the Rev. William Kelly, the Roman Catholic Rector of the Church of St. Mary and St. Michael, Commercial-road East; and a French brass clock, value 20s., the property of the Rev. Mr. Burke, the Roman Catholic Curate of the same place. The prisoner had been confidentially employed in the sacristy of the chapel, but at the same time had been a constant frequenter of a theatrical saloon in White-chapel. The two priests having recommended him to mercy, Mr. Woolrych found the accused guilty of the unlawful possession of the property, and sentenced him to be imprisoned for fourteen days.

SINGULAR OUTRAGE.

The *Norfolk News* gives the following version of an extraordinary case of assault recently committed at Norwich. Mr. English, superintendent of the police force at Leeds, and lately chief constable of Norwich, visited the latter city on Friday, the 2nd inst., with the double object of attending the Freemasons' banquet and of having an interview with a lady for whom he had long professed an attachment. Miss S., the lady referred to, is a member of one of the first families in the city, and during Mr. English's sojourn here he made repeated advances towards her. Rumour also says that since his residence in Leeds he has occasionally favoured her with a note, to which she has not taken the trouble to reply; and that she recently received an urgent request to afford him the gratification of an interview near the family residence on the evening of the 1st instant, or, if he did not reach Norwich in time for that, to meet him on the Earlham-road at eleven o'clock on the following morning. She handed the epistle to her brother, that he might respond to the appeal as he thought wisest under the circumstances. Mr. English, fortunately, perhaps, did not arrive in time for the evening interview. Had he done so it is said that he would have been allured by a gentleman in lady's attire to a spot where two or three friends furnished with suitable twigs were anxiously awaiting his approach. So far, therefore, the plot to punish him for the offence of bestowing his affections in the wrong direction was a failure. He did not, however, wholly escape, for Mr. S., the lady's brother, undertook to perform by himself in the morning the work which had been assigned to two or three over night. Accordingly, at the proper time on Friday morning Mr. S. reached the appointed spot in a cab. Near

the Mitre Cottage, on the Earlham-road, Mr. S. met Mr. English coming towards the city, he having been sauntering up and down some little time on the look-out for the lady. The driver pulled up as quickly as possible, having then reached a distance of about forty yards from the point at which Mr. English was passed. Mr. S. at once alighted and turned back. The moment he approached Mr. English he spoke, and as English turned round he struck him a violent blow with a stick on the top of the hat, following it up in quick succession with three or four blows on the shoulders, in the administration of which the stick was broken. A heavy blow with the fist on Mr. English's face or forehead brought him to the ground, and Mr. S. next proceeded to drag him across the road, and was pulling or pushing him through a gap in the fence, when he fell upon him, and the two were quickly locked in each other's arms. Mr. F., who happened to be near, and to witness the encounter, hastened to the spot, and with the aid of some other persons who came up at the moment pulled them off the fence. Mr. S. succeeded after this in striking another blow, but eventually he was induced to think that he had had revenge enough, and drove off in the cab. English, who had not struck a single blow in return, then repaired to the Mitre Cottage, and a surgeon was sent for, who directed his removal in a cab to his (the surgeon's) own house; and there he remained till Saturday evening, when he took his departure homeward. From all we can learn, he presented a sorry figure about the face, and at the time of his leaving was also smarting considerably from wounds on the head, arms, legs, and various parts of his body.

PRIMROSE-HILL.—Most persons think (says the *Athenaeum*) that Primrose-hill now forms a park and belongs to the public. But the fact is that very much the greater portion of the northern side belongs to Eton College, and is separated from the public park by railings. There is reason to think that unless the Government purchase the remaining part it will soon be cut up for building; the consequence of which will be, not merely that the ground will be lost, never to be recovered by the public, but all the northern view from the brow will be reduced to backs of houses.

THE BISHOP OF SALISBURY'S VISITATION.—The Bishop of Salisbury last week held his third visitation of the diocese since his appointment to the see, and delivered a lengthened charge to the clergy, in which he congratulated them upon the defeat of the numerous attacks which had of late been made upon the doctrine, discipline, and position of the Church. The enemies of the Establishment had again attempted to legalise marriage with a deceased wife's sister; efforts had been made to unsettle the standards of the Church under the pretence of a revision of the Prayer-book; to abolish church rates; to open the Church burial-grounds to Dissenters; to give them control over schools which had hitherto been under the sole management of the Church, and to increase the facilities for the irregular performance of Divine worship; but all these attacks had happily been successfully resisted, and the Church and her privileges still remained intact. The Bishop urged upon his clergy the necessity for continued vigilance and firmness in defence of the Establishment, and then proceeded to refer to the "Essays and Reviews," and to explain the reasons which had actuated him in instituting proceedings against Dr. Rowland Williams, one of the authors of the work in question. The hearing of the case is expected to come on early next term.

LONDON TWO CENTURIES AGO.—The destruction of life, remarks the Registrar-General, in the report he has recently issued, like everything else in London, is upon a scale of grandeur; if its dead of a single year could be brought to life, they would people a large city. Yet the rate of mortality in London is very different from what it was two hundred years since. In 1600–1650, out of 100,000 persons 357 died annually from smallpox; the deaths now are 42. The mortality then by fever and ague, with scarlatina, quinsy, and croup, was 759; it is now 227. A few (8) in the 100,000 die now of dysentery; then, out of the same number, 763 died annually of that disease; by diarrhoea, however, a milder form of disease, 120 die now, 11 died then. Women are not yet exempt from peril in childbearing; the mortality is 17, but it was then 86. Consumption and diseases of the breathing organs were very fatal; the deaths were 1679; they are 611 now. Children were rapidly cut down; of convulsions and tetanus 1175 died then, 136 now. Dropsy, a result and sign of scurvy and fever, was exceedingly fatal: 829 died then, 26 now. Scurvy and purpura bear testimony to the imperfect nutrition of the population; the annual deaths in 100,000 were 142 then, and are now 2. In addition, London was then ravaged by the terrible "plague." The returns show, on the other hand, that apoplexy, paralysis, epilepsy, affections of the brain, and suicide are more fatal now—151 now, to 57 then; and of the violent deaths some are now more frequent, as the forces by which they are occasioned are greater. Poison is more accessible, fires are probably more common, and diseases more inflammable, but drowning and suffocation were then twice as fatal (23 and 20) as they are in the present day. The Registrar-General reminds us that the diseases would revive if the same causes came again into action. The supply of food, and particularly of vegetables and fresh meat, was defective in the winter, so that a large portion of the population became scorbutic. The houses were nearly as close and dirty as the houses now are in Constantinople and Cairo; the water supply was imperfect, and parasitic insects and diseases of the skin betrayed its impurity. The dirt of the houses struck foreigners. The sewers were defective, and the soil gave off marsh malarial in some parts, and in others was saturated with the filth of successive generations. One by one these evils have more or less disappeared, and along with this change step by step the health of London has improved. The nation, adds the Registrar-General, exults justly in the progress of its manufactures, but it is surpassed by the progress of the health of its capital, and further progress is in the hands of the people. They can work out their own salvation, with the blessing of Providence; and, as science succeeds in bringing to light the causes of unnatural diseases still existing, we may hope confidently that those diseases will be mitigated or averted.

THE BRAIDWOOD TESTIMONIAL.—A meeting of the committee for managing the fund now being raised for a testimonial to the memory of the late Mr. James Braidwood was held at the Mansion House on Tuesday—the Lord Mayor in the chair. It was announced that the fund now amounted to nearly £600, and while the committee were sitting a donation of £21 was received from the Fishmongers' Company. It was also stated during the meeting that the fire insurance companies had voted a sum of £7000 to the widow and family of the deceased, and that his personal estate had been sworn as under the value of £5000. A conversation ensued as to the appropriation of the fund in hand, in the course of which several members of the committee expressed themselves to the effect that, as, through the bounty of the fire-officers and from the private fortune of the deceased himself, his widow and family were placed above the reach of dependence, the greater part, if not the whole, of it might properly be devoted to the comfort of his aged sisters, for whose welfare he always felt the deepest concern. The question was left over for consideration at a future meeting.

